Western Worker

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(Section of the Communist International)

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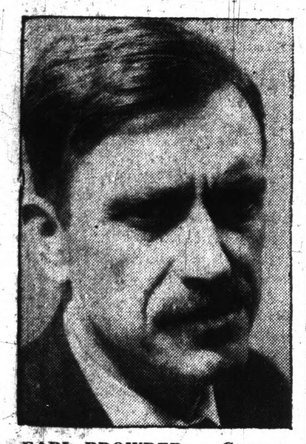
Vol. 6, No. 2 (Whole of No. 368) SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1937. Price Five Cents

MARITIME UNIONS BACK PEOPLES MEET

LABOR'S ROLL OF HONOR FOR THE NEW YEAR



STALIN—He presented new Soviet constitution, most democratic ever known.



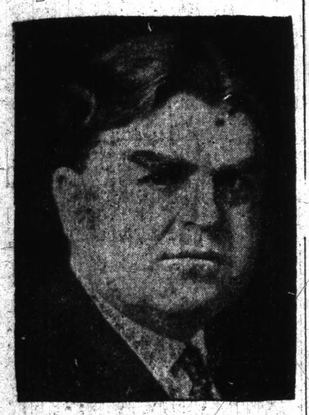
EARL BROWDER — Communist presidential candidate in 1936, fighter for Farmer-Labor Party.



LARGO CABALLERO — He's head of Peoples Front Government in Spain, beating off Fascists.



HARRY BRIDGES—Outstanding leader of the maritime workers on strike on the West Coast.



JOHN L. LEWIS—Heads the C.I.O., and drive to organize unorganized in mass production industries.



EARL KING—He's staunch in face of frameup planned by shipowners and courts.

SPAIN MILITIA AGAIN CRUSHES FASCIST DRIVE

Another Act of War Is Committed by Nazi Cruiser

MADRID—Vain attempts to encircle the Spanish capital were made here last Monday by the Fascist forces, which again attempted to terrorize the non-combatant population of Madrid by air bombings in which at least 20 persons were killed.

The government forces scored a decisive victory at Almadrones and reported many desertions from the Fascist troops to the militia.

Fascist bombers also rained incendiary bombs on Malaga, killing many women and children, refugees from Fascist occupied territory.

Nazis Again Commit Act of War

BILBAO — The Nazi cruiser Koenigsberg committed another act of war against the legal Spanish government when it seized another Spanish ship, the Marta Junquera, en route from Bilbao to Santander with a cargo of potatoes and foodstuffs.

The German ship had previously seized two other Spanish ships in the Bay of Miscay.

Great Britain made strong protest to the Spanish Fascists on the stopping of two British freighters by Spanish Fascist ships—the Blackhill and the Etrib.

British authorities also said

(Continued on Page 2 , Col. 8)

SAYS WALLACE KILLED ALBERTS

Framed "Murder" Case Is In Hands of Jury

OAKLAND — George Wallace, miserable tool of the prosecution in the framed murder conspiracy case against Earl King, E. G. Ramsay and Frank Conner of the Marine Firemen's Union, was charged by Defense Attorney George Anderson as being the killer of George Alberts aboard the Swayne & Hoyt Freighter Point Lobos here last March 22.

As defense arguments were concluded, Judge Frank Ogden was scheduled to give his instructions and send the case to the jury Monday night.

Andersen, in giving the concluding argument on behalf of Earl King, showed how Wallace's "defense" has in reality

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

L.A. Unions Take Up Labor Slate For Elections

LOS ANGELES. — Independent political action and a labor slate for the municipal elections here in April and May, will be the order of discussion at a conference of union representatives to be held here next Sunday, January 10th, 2 p.m., at 1748 Santee St.

The conference was called by Painters' District Council, No. 36.

New C.S. Drive is Planned

DeJonge Release Hits At Legality of Entire Act

SAN FRANCISCO.—The Supreme Court has set aside the conviction of Dirk De Jonge, Oregon victim of the Criminal Syndicalism Act!

Immediately, a new and enlarged campaign has been projected for the California Conference Against the Criminal Syndicalism Act, to secure the release of the Sacramento victims of this act, and to demand its complete removal from the statute books.

The supreme court in its decision carefully refused to go any further than it was forced to go by the legalities of the case immediately before it. Although releasing De Jonge, the court did not act on the constitutionality of the act as a whole merely denouncing the theory on which the law is based and declaring that peaceful political action such as that in which De Jonge was engaged could not be condemned by the statute.

De Jonge was convicted following the 1934 maritime strike after he had addressed a meeting of unemployed urging support of the strikers and refusal to scab.

Apply to Sacramento

Herbert Nugent secretary of the California Conference Against the C.S. Act, declared that the same application must be made to the Sacramento victims. The only charge which was upheld against them by the jury was that of membership in the Communist Party, which the prosecution had attempted to present

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

Oust Scharrenberg ISU Leaders Say

SAN FRANCISCO — District officials of unions affiliated with the International Seamen's Union on the West Coast, on Monday adopted a resolution for removal of Paul Scharrenberg from all official positions he now holds in the I.S.U., to be followed by his expulsion.

This means dismissing the discredited reactionary as editor of the Seamen's Journal and as legislative representative of the I. S.U. in Washington.

The resolution, signed by J. E. Ferguson of the Marine Firemen, Eugene Burke of the Cooks, August Vigen of the Alaska Fishermens Union, Matt Batinovich of the Deep Sea and Purse Seine Fishermen, and C. W. Deal, of the Inland Boatmens (formerly Ferryboatmen's) Union, states that Scharrenberg "betrayed the cause of the organization," and "ignobly represented it."

Because he has bitterly attacked the leadership of the Pacific Coast maritime strike, Scharrenberg has "lined up with the shipowners against the interests of his own organization," the resolution states. "He does not represent or speak for all the West Coast seamen," it is further stated.

DEMONSTRATE, HIT PROGRAM OF STARVATION

Jan. 8 Mass Meets In Cal. Back Wash. Demonstration

(See Page 2 for Los Angeles News)

WASHINGTON—All trade unions, farmers' organizations, all civic and fraternal organizations, all unemployed and W.P.A. workers' groups have been called on to elect delegates and raise funds for the mass demonstrations to demand adequate relief, to be held in Washington on Jan. 15.

The big demonstration has been called by the Workers' Alliance.

(A series of mass meetings will be held in California cities on January 8, to support the demonstration. The mass meetings will be held in every major city in the state, and they will help finance the Washington demonstration.)

The call of the National Workers Alliance follows:

ON TO WASHINGTON!!
MOBILIZE AND DEMONSTRATE
IN WASHINGTON, D. C.
JANUARYP 15, 1937

For continuation and expansion of W.P.A.!

For 20 per cent increase in monthly wages!

For Federal direct relief!

For a $1,250,000,000 deficiency appropriation!

To all locals and members of

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

'37 LEGISLATURE OPENS SESSIONS

Jones Slated for Speaker With McAdoo Support

SACRAMENTO—For the first time this century, the Republican Party did not control the State Legislature when it convened here last Monday.

The Democrats held a 47-33 majority in the Assembly, but the Republicans held control of the Senate by a 25-15 majority.

Among the 47 Democrats, are 10 Assemblymen who were elected with Epic endorsement. One of these was William Mosely Jones, of Los Angeles, who was slated for speaker of the Assembly, with the promotion and backing of reactionary Senator Wm. Gibbs McAdoo, and the support of even many Republicans.

Bay Bridge Tolls

Assemblyman W. B. Hornblower, San Francisco, was to introduce a resolution calling for a flat 40-cent-a-car toll for the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, at the afternoon session on Monday. Present rate is 65 cents.

Assemblymen Andreas and Upland were to introduce a bill granting a wholesale liquor monopoly to the state.

(See story on State Federation of Labor's legislative program, Page 2.)

JANITORS VOTE

SAN FRANCISCO — Janitors in the big Crystal Palace Market have taken a strike vote.

Unknown Heroes Against Fascism





AT LEFT, a sailor of the Spanish navy, and at right, a woman factory worker, in the front lines of the Spanish forces of democracy fighting the Fascists.

GENERAL TIE UP LOOMS IN MOTORS CO.

Power Is Voted Auto Union Strategy Board; 30,000 Out

FLINT, Mich.—Power to call a general strike in all General Motors plants was voted to a strategy board by the United Automobile Workers Union, C. I.O. affiliate, when 300 delegates from General Motors plants in 10 cities met here Sunday.

While the conference met, hundreds of General Motors workers sat tight in two Fisher Body plants here, while local and company authorities did not dare interfere against their sit-down strike.

Police Laughed At

Close to 200 police who had

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

AMER-HAWAIIAN BUILDS CO. UNION

Mates Union Files Charges; Thugs Attack Pickets

SAN FRANCISCO — Developments in the maritime situation over the past few days include:

Breakup of another meeting between the Shipowners Coast Committee and the licensed men's unions (Marine Engineers and Masters, Mates and Pilots) due to the shipowners' arrogant attitude. Plant, for the shipowners, again rejected preferential hiring, which is a life and death demand for the licensed men.

Filing with acting district director Neal of the National Labor Relations Board of an accusation by the Masters, Mates and Pilots that the American-Hawaiian S. S. Co. is promoting a company union of licensed officers.

Demand to Congress by the Maritime Commission for more power, empowering it to intervene in maritime labor disputes. The Commission has from its start been partial to the shipowners.

Arrival of American Radio Telegraphists Assn. negotiations

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

SUIT AGAINST VIGILANTE, STA. ROSA MARCH 9

SACRAMENTO. — Trial of Jack Green's $25,000 suit against Fred Cairns, secretary of the Healdsburg Chamber of Commerce, and leader of the 1935 Santa Rosa vigilante mob, was set for March 9 by Federal Judge Michael J. Roche.

Cairns was one of those acquitted in the vigilante trial in Santa Rosa.

STRIKERS AID JOBLESS MEET

Big Demonstration in Los Angeles January 8th

SAN PEDRO—At a meeting of the Central Strike Committee here, support was pledged for the January 9th demonstration of the organized unemployed in Los Angeles.

A sub-committee was elected to work with the picketing committee to mobilize the strikers for transportation to Los Angeles.

Another committee of four was elected to cooperate with the Workers' Alliance in the struggle to secure relief for all nedey strikers. It is expected that mass delegations will be sent to the office of Ray Pilling, Los Angeles County Administrator of relief.

Lauretta Adams, local organizer of the Workers' Alliance, appeared before the Central Strike Committee and outlined the relief situation and the policies of the Workers' Alliance. She pledged the support of the Alliance to the strikers.

Court Upholds E. Coast Rank & File

NEW YORK — East Coast rank and file seamen won a new court victory when the U. S. Circuit Court here on Monday refused a motion by the I.S.U. reactionary officials to continue an injunction against the newly-elected rank and file officials of the Marine Firemen's Union.

Ivan Hunter, international secretary-treasurer of the I.S.U., is thus directed to turn over files and records to Frederick Philips and Moe Byne, elected by the rank and file as district secretary and treasurer, respectively.

Justice Steuer in Supreme Court reserved decision on a motion to dismiss a suit by Joseph Curran, seamen's strike leader, to void the agreement signed by the I.S.U. reactionary officials last March "through fraudulent means"—without first gaining the membership's consent.

DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON ON COPELAND ACT

West Coast Seamen To Take Pledge Cards to Perkins

SAN PEDRO—The Sailors' Union branch here went on record as supporting the policies of Harry Bridges in the maritime strike, and for no separate agreements by any one union.

SAN FRANCISCO—The Committee to amend the Copeland Bill, of which Al V. Quittenton, assistant secretary of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific, is chairman, has submitted the following program to the Joint Maritime Strike Committee which the latter has unanimously adopted:

Delegation to Washington

1. That the Joint Strike Committee call for the election of one delegate from each Marine Union to form a delegation to go to Washington, D. C. (Each union to select its own delegate.

2. This delegation is to do everything possible to have the Copeland Bill amended to include a collective bargaining clause, and to repeal the section dealing with continuous discharge books and certificates of efficiency.

3. That this delegation is to take with them all pledge cards and signed resolutions to be given to Madame Perkins, and through her arrange for an interview with President Roosevelt.

4. This delegation will be identified as a West Coast group, representing the will of the West Coast rank and file.

5. That we call for immediate action on all points contained herein and that the financing of this delegation is at the discretion of the Joint Strike Committee.

JOE RYAN IN NEW SCABBING ACT

Prevents Working Ships Signed With Strikers

NEW YORK—Figuring out ways to break strikes comes easy to Intl. President Joseph Ryan of the I.L.A.

His latest stunt was to order longshoremen not to work the American Oriole, because that company had signed up with the East Coast Seamen's Strike Committee.

The ships were forced to leave for South American ports minus cargo.

Ryan extended the threat to any steamship lines signing with the Strike Committee.

About 500 striking seamen marched in Jersey City to break the anti-picket edict of Mayor Hague. Police attacked the pickets.

400 Jobless Sugar Workers Demonstrate

CROCKETT — Over 400 recent employees of the California-Hawaiian Sugar Refining Co. demonstrated Monday before Carquinez Grammar School, in a demand for W.P.A. jobs, the school project.

The sugar refinery has been closed for over two months.

S. F. STRIKE COMMITTEE IN ENDORSEMENT

Unions Throughout State Get Behind Sacto. Conference

Striking maritime unions last week got behind the California People's Legislative Conference, to be held in Sacramento on Saturday and Sunday, January 6th and 17th.

The Joint Marine Strike Committee of the San Francisco Bay Area endorsed the conference and requested that all affiliated organizations do likewise and elect delegates.

The International Longshoremen's Association, 38-79, elected delegates, as did also the American Radio Telegraphers Association, San Francisco; and the Marine Cooks and Stewards, S. F.

The Machinists Union, Local 8, S. F., had previously elected delegates and sponsored the conference in the Iron Trades Council unions.

The Warehousemen's Union, Local 38-44, strike committee, likewise endorsed the conference.

In San Pedro, the Marine Shipbuilders' Union, Local 9, and the Fur Workers' Union of Los Angeles are planning to send representatives to the conference, it is reported.

L. A. Political Conference

These unions elected delegates to the conference called for Sunday, January 10th, by the Painters' District Council, L. A., to consider independent political action by labor and a labor slate in the spring municipal elections.

District Council No. 2, Maritime Federation of the Pacific, set up a Law and Legislative Committee to prepare legislation for consideration by the conference. Maritime delegates will caucus before going to Sacramento.

Elect Delegates

In Contra Costa County, the Fish Reduction Workers Union of Pittsburg, Local 20,328, elected three delegates to the conference, and the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union of Selby also elected delegates.

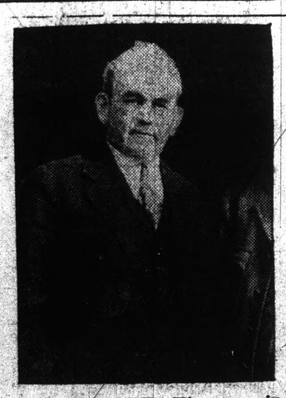
Headquarters for the conference are at the Hotel Senator Sacramento, and at Room 911, 424 South Broadway, Los Angeles.

All unions and other progressive organizations are urged to contact the conference headquarters, and to elect delegates to participate in the conference, which will work out a joint legislative program and insure that bills representing the needs of organized labor and the people generally are introduced in the State Legislature, which convened last Monday.

Anti-Picket Repeal Committee to Meet Every Saturday, S.F.

SAN FRANCISCO.—With 36 delegates from as many unions present, the San Francisco Labor Council anti-picket law repeal committee met last Saturday night and decided that the campaign committee would meet every Saturday from now on.

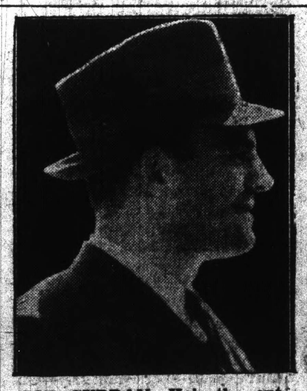
The Board of Supervisors has agreed that repeal of the 20-year old anti-picket ordinance will be placed before the voters on March 2.



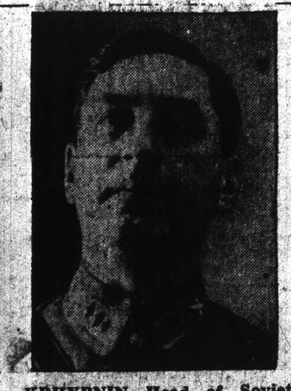
TOM MOONEY—His case in critical stage after year of hearing new evidence.



HOMER MARTIN—He leads United Automobile Workers Union in drive to organize auto industry.



JOE CURRAN—He's the outstanding leader of the East Coast strike of seamen.



KRHYPNIN—Head of Soviet aviation. He told Congress of Soviets 7000 planes will resist Fascist invaders.

No Relief For Single Strikers; Heat Is On

LOS ANGELES. — A special strikers' committee has been elected in San Pedro at a special meeting of the maritime unions to work with Loretta Adams, assistant organizer of the Workers' Alliance, to bring pressure on County Relief Administrator Roy Pilling for relief of approximately 2000 single strikers.

High-Handed Stuff

A few days ago Pilling declared before about fifty members of the striking maritime unions and of the Workers' Alliance that, according to a new ruling by the state administration, single, unattached strikers were not eligible for relief.

However, when the delegation demanded to see the letter giving Pilling this instruction, it was learned that what he had said was a ruling was actually nothing more than suggestions on how to proceed in depriving striking workers of the relief to which they are entitled.

John Van Ermen, Harry Russel and Britt Webster were those selected on the special committee to work with Mrs. Adams in obtaining relief for the unmarried workers.

SIMPSON TO ADDRESS BIG MASS MEET

Wires ILD Thanks for Work in Helping to Secure Release

NEW YORK—Back from 17 months in Nazi prisons, Lawrence Simpson, American seaman, will address a big mass meeting Jan. 6 in St. Nicholas Arena.

The meeting will be under auspices of the International Labor Defense, the Committee for Defense of Political Prisoners, and the striking seamen.

Simpson wired the I.L.D. and the Committee for Defense of Political Prisoners, before his arrival:

"Accept plan for meeting for Jan. 6, and wish to thank you for your work for my release. And thank you that I am alive today... Send greetings from our comrades in Germany. Build the United Front. Hold the fort."

NEW YORK.—No sooner did Lawrence Simpson land than he registered for picket duty in the East Coast seamen's strike.

Simpson returned Sunday on the S.S. President Roosevelt, after 17 months in Nazi prisons, following his arrest by secret police aboard the S.S. Manhattan in Hamburg harbor.

Detectives met Simpson on his arrival and "escorted" him ashore, in an effort to stop a demonstration to greet the West Coast seaman.

The reception gave President Ryan of the I.L.A. occasion for a fresh outburst against the strike. The reception, said Ryan, would "cause all decent seamen to repudiate the strike." Ryan's statement was met with laughter.

General Strike In Motors Co. Looms

(Continued From Page One)

been mobilized to forcibly remove the sit-down strikers were demobilized, in the face of the determination of the strikers.

Sheriff Wolcott and his men were laughed out of the plant by the strikers.

At the same time pickets massed in front of the plant, and marched around it. The pickets and the sit-down strikers defied an injunction.

Many Plants Closed

General Motors plants have already been struck in Atlanta, Kansas City, Cleveland, and the big Delco-Remy division at Anderson, Ind., employing 11,797 men, will be closed down this week.

30,000 workers are out.

The power to call a general strike was voted as a result of the repeated refusal of the company to meet with union representatives on collective bargaining in its 69 plants, employing 112,000 workers.

Sunday's conference approved eight demands, including recognition, wage increases and shorter hours and set up a board of strategy. Other demands approved are:

1—Abolition of all piece work and substitution of hourly rates of pay.

2—The 30-hour week, six-hour day, time-and-a-half for all overtime.

3—Minimum pay "commensurate with an American standard of living."

4—Reinstatement of employes "unjustly discharged."

5—Seniority rights based on length of service.

6—Recognition of the U.A.W.A. as sole representative of G.M.S. employes.

7—Fixing of production speed by mutual agreement between union and company representatives in all G.M. plants.

Chiang Kai-Shek Gets Pardon for Chang On Kidnaping

NANKING, China.—A 10-year prison sentence, imposed for his kidnaping of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, was lifted from Marshal Chang Hsueh-Liang last Monday by a pardon from the Nanking government. No mention was made of the sentence of five years' loss of civil rights also imposed on Marshal Chang.

Chiang Kai-Shek urged pardon of Chang, telling the State Council that he was partly to blame for having been kidnapped because he had not "maintained better discipline in the army."

U.S.S.R. OUTPUT GROWS

MOSCOW—Taking 1935 as 100, production in the metalurgical industries of the U.S.S.R. shows the following increases: iron, 110.4; steel, 144.2; rolled goods, 128.5.

NO INJUNCTIONS



FIRST FARMER-LABORITE appointed to serve on Minnesota supreme court: Harry H. Peterson, former state attorney-general. He won't issue any injunctions against unions.

ROSSI INVITES MURDERERS FOR BRIDGE FIESTA

Cables Mussolini To Stage Flight In May

SAN FRANCISCO—If Angelo Rossi is allowed to have his way, blood-stained Fascist hands will take part in the celebration of a great achievement.

Rossi has cabled Premier Benito Mussolini of Italy, inviting him to stage his projected Rome to San Francisco aerial flight during the Golden Gate Bridge Fiesta next May.

No small share of the credit in building the bridge must go to members of organized labor. Mussolini has crushed the unions in Italy, and murdered hundreds of trade union and other working class leaders.

It is reported that Mussolini's son Bruno may be a co-pilot in the planned flight.

Rossi cabled Mussolini "on behalf of the people of San Francisco." The people of San Francisco are expected to have plenty to say about bringing Fascist murderers to their celebration.

High Court Faces Vital Legislation

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Important labor and social security legislation was to come up in the near future before the U.S. Supreme Court, which reconvened last Monday.

The legislation included a rehearing on the New York unemployment insurance case petition, the unemployment insurance tax provisions of the federal social security law, which is attacked by a Boston and Maine Railroad stockholder; Ashton-Summers act, regulating interstate shipment of prison-made goods; retroactive 50 percent tax on silver profits contained in the Silver Purchase Act, Washington State Minimum Wage Law, and provisions of the 1936 Revenue Act governing recovery of processing and floor stocks taxes imposed under the A.A.A.

A ruling was forthcoming on the appeal of Dirk De Jonge, unemployed leader in Oregon, who was convicted under that state's Criminal Syndicalism Act for urging support to the maritime strikers in 1934.

Warehouse Men For Clearer Pact

SAN FRANCISCO.—By a vote of 219 to 98, the Warehousemen's Union, I.L.A. Local 38-44 on Sunday rejected the latest offer of the employers.

Union spokesmen pointed out that the proposal of the employers (in the public and feed warehouses) was not clear as to the 40-hour week.

The warehouse union members desired assurance of a 40-hour week in 5-days from Monday to Friday, and of time and a half for overtime on Saturday. Fear was felt that the 40-hours might be spread over six days instead of five.

The employers offer was for a 72½ cents an hour wage, while the union had already lowered its original wage demand of 85 cents to one of 75 cents an hour.

Strike Hits Okla. Petroleum Fields

SEMINOLE, Okla. — A "sit-down" strike has tied up eight plants of the Empire Oil and Refining Co. in the Seminole area.

The strike is led by the Intl. Assn. of Oil Field, Gas Well and Refinery Workers of America.

It takes place in the heart of one of the richest fields in the country. The strike is the first in the oil industry for many years.

L. A. ALLIANCE DEMONSTRATES ON JANUARY 9

Big Action Will Hit Plan of Layoffs On WPA Projects

LOS ANGELES—In a militant wave of protest against recent mass lay-offs on W.P.A. and the obvious intention of President Roosevelt to ask for a tremendous reduction of funds in carrying out the works progress program, the Workers' Alliance of Los Angeles has called a mass demonstration for January 9, which will be held here at the Plaza, historic meeting place of workers.

Charging that reactionary forces within and outside the national administration are gaining the upper hand in an effort to break down the relief issue to the point of abandoning it entirely, the Workers' Alliance points out to all workers that this is vastly more than an attack upon the unemployed.

Who Backs Move

It is clearly illustrated that the move is backed by the United States Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers and other organizations of big business in a drive to demobilize W.P.A., throw millions of workers onto the labor market, break down living standards and halt the rise of organized labor.

With demands for continuation and expansion of W.P.A., for a 20 per cent increase in monthly wages, reinstatement of all dismissed W.P.A. workers, federal direct relief at a 25 per cent increase, the Workers' Alliance militantly declares that now, more than ever, is the time to defeat the reactionaries and to let the Administration and Congress know that the American people demand that their mandate of November 3 be put into effect.

Under the slogan of "For security and a decent standard of living," the Workers' Alliance calls workers from all over the country and from all projects to join this demonstration in the Plaza at three o'clock the afternoon of January 9.

Defense Accuses Wallace of Crime

(Continued From Page One)

been directed by District Attorney Earl Warren instead of Public Defender Willard Shea, who nominally served in that capacity.

Murphy's Motives

He showed that aside from Wallace, the only testimony tending to connect King with the kililng of Alberts was that of A. M. Murphy, who admitted he disliked King and sought his removal from the time he came into the Firemen's office as assistane secretary.

Development of the trial, including the behavior of Wallace and his refusal to accept funds from the defense committee to provide him with an attorney of his own choosing, had made it clear that Wallace's role as a tool of Warren is a terrorized effort to save his own skin at the expense of a fabricated story about a "conspiracy" in which he was an "innocent" participant.

Myron Harris, attorney for Ramsay, showed in his part of the concluding defense argument, that the only possible "conspiracy" was between Murphy, Wallace, and Warren. He pointed out that even so far as the prosecution testimony even alleges, King and Ramsay were guilty not of conspiracy to murder as alleegd by Warren, but conspiracy to commit battery. Even this case is built on false testimony which makes no effort to name the real murderer, but to convict union leaders and the union of using murder as an instrument of policy.

Expose "Confession"

On behalf of Conner, Attorney Herbert Resner attacked the "confession" that was read into evidence, reminding the jury that it had been extracted after a night of threats and lies by prosecution agents while Conner was sick. Among other things, the prosecution agents had told Conner that he had been abandoned by the union and the defense attorneys, while they urged him to tell a story that would implicate others in the hope that he could "get off." Conner's confession was repudiated the morning after it was made, as soon as he found that the lies were not true and had had time to recover from the effects of the terror to which the prosecution had subjected him.

WAREHOUSE SET UP FOR FOOD FOR SPAIN

NEW YORK.—A new warehouse for the collection of canned foods, condensed milk, used clothing, medical supplies, children's articles and other supplies for relief in Spain has been set up by the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy at 227 W. 17th St., New York City.

Donations may be sent there. With 14,000 square feet of floor space, it is twice as large as the former warehouse.

"One Man Lobby" In Sacto. Limits Labor's Chances

SACRAMENTO. — The "one-man lobby" of the State Federation of Labor, consisting of Edward D. Vandeleur, arrived here for the opening of the state legislature with a program including halting of private arsenals by employers, prohibiting use of the State Highway Patrol in strikes, a 30-hour week bill, and repeal of the sales tax.

Repeal of the criminal syndicalism act is also part of the State Federation's legislative program.

John A. O'Connell also arrived here, as legislative representative of the San Francisco Central Labor Council.

By limiting the scope of activities to such "one man lobbies", the reactionary labor union officials have injured the chances of success for labor's program.

Vandeleur caused an attack to be printed in the San Francisco Labor Clarion, the Labor Council organ, on the Peoples Legislative Conference to be held here. The conference was called "communistic", even though such prominent labor leaders as Gillette of the Los Angeles Musicians, Showen of the Painters District Council in Los Angeles and others are sponsors of the conference. (See elsewhere in this issue for news of People's Legislative Conference, Jan. 16 and 17, and for news on opening of state legislature.)

Soviet Production Plan Exceeded

MOSCOW. — Production plans of 1936 were fulfilled ahead of schedule, heads of five of the most important commissariats in the Soviet Union reported to V. M. Molotov, president of the Council of Commissars, and to Joseph Stalin, general secretary of the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R.

"It is a tremendous victory for Soviet industry, for planned social economy and demonstrates anew the growing might of the Soviet Union and the power of the Stakhanov movement," declared the Soviet press.

G. K. Ordzhonikidze, commissar for heavy industries, reported the heavy industries completed on December 14th last a gross production plan valued at $6,-201,000,000, and considerably exceeded the plan by the end of the year. The 1936 plan called for a 26 percent increase over 1935. Some plants in the defense industry did not fulfill the plan, he reported. The new Soviet Constitution sets up a separate commissariat of defense industry.

Bag Companies Are Blocking Peace

SAN FRANCISCO. — Even though the United Textile Workers Union has compromised on its original demands for 550 bag factory workers, the employers are taking the same arrogant attitude as the shipowners are in the maritime strike.

Because of this negotiations between the union and Marshall Madison, Industrial Assn. attorney representing the employers have fallen through. Walter G. Matthewson, federal conciliator stated no new conferences are as yet slated.

The workers are seeking a wage increase averaging 15% and a 40-hour week.

Postpone Trial In Anti-Picket Law Test in Berkeley

BERKELEY.—The trial of 26 University of California students, on charges of violating the anti-picket ordinance during the recent warehousemen's strike in Woolworth's, has been continued until March 24.

Postponement was made by Police Judge Youngs. Appeal on one of the cases is pending.

JANUARY 8 MASS MEETINGS IN CALIF. TO BACK WASHINGTON ANTI-HUNGER DEMONSTRATION

Workers Alliance Calls on All Progressive Organization to Aid Financing Jan. 15 Demonstration

(Continued From Page One)

the Workers' Alliance of America!

To all trade union and farmers' organizations!

To civic and fraternal bodies!

To all unemployed and W.P.A. workers!

Greetings:

The present wave of mass lay-offs on W.P.A. and the obvious intention of President Roosevelt to ask for a Deficiency Appropriation of only $500,000,000 to carry on the works program until July 1st, clearly indicates that the reactionary forces within and outside the National Administration are gaining the upper hand on the relief issue.

W.P.A. slashes

The drive of the United States Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers, and other organizations of big business is to demobilize W.P.A., throw millions of workers on to the labor market, break down labor standards and stop the militant rise of organized labor. With nine to ten million workers still unemployed, despite the return of industrial production to the 1929 level, it is evident that big business refuses to re-employ these willing and able workers at decent wages. Defeated in the 1936 elections and refused entrance through the front door, these reactionary forces seek to control the policies of government through the back door.

The decisive test as to who has won the 1936 elections will be determined in the vote in Congress on the Deficiency Appropriation. A victory for reactionaries in this fight would lend encouragement and support to the drive of big business to scrap whatever gains the workers of America have made in the last few years.

A Deficiency Appropriation of $500,000,000 would mean an average expenditure of $100,000,-000 a month from February 1st to June 30. This would (a) mean a reduction of 40 per cent from the November expenditures of $165,000,000 a month; (b) it would require a layoff of 800,000 workers, (c) a continuation of present disgracefully low W.P.A.wages .

Now is the time to defeat the reactionaries and to let the Administration and Congress know that the American people demand that their mandate of November 3rd be put into effect.

To Washington

Because of the urgent necessity to combat the present drive to demobilize and wreck the works program, the Workers' Alliance of America calls upon its affiliated groups and all fraternal and sympathetic bodies to join in a mass delegation and demonstration in Washington, D. C., January 15, 1937.

The Workers' Alliance of America, supported by William Green and the American Federation of Labor Convention, and endorsed by John L. Lewis, President of the United Mine Workers of America, calls upon the President and Congress to EXPAND, instead of contract the W.P.A. Unless private industry is willing to employ these millions of willing workers, the Federal Government must assume this obligation.

We are asking the Congress to appropriate $1,250,000,000 (one billion two hundred fifty million) as the Deficiency Appropriation. This will

(a) Keep at work two and a half million W.P.A. workers who were employed on November 15.

(b) Give W.P.A. jobs to three hundred thousand employables now on direct relief.

(c) Restore to W.P.A. the 250,-000 - drought-stricken farmers who are now being thrown onto Resettlement.

(d) Pay these workers a decent wage, which means the 20 per cent increase in wages, the Workers' Alliance and organized labor have requested.

Congress will vote on the Deficiency Appropriation, probably before January 20. It is necessary for us to bring the utmost pressure upon Congress by mass demonstrations in every city on January 9th, by a flood of telegrams to Congressmen and Senators, and finally by a—

Mass Mobilization and Demonstration in Washington, January 15, 1937.

The time is short—we must act quickly and effectively. Detailed instructions will be sent to all locals of the Workers' Alliance and all interested groups.

Our jobs—our security—our lives are at stake.

The cry must go up in every part of the country—Elect delegates—raise funds—mobilize—on to Washington!

For jobs at a living wage—for adequate direct relief—for security and a decent standard of living.

WORKERS' ALLIANCE OF AMERICA
817 Fourteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

FORECLOSE ON FARMS, IS THREAT

Moratorium Law in Cal. Expires Feb. 1

WASHINGTON. — A wave of farm foreclosures will sweep the middle west and Pacific Coast unless farmers take steps to secure the re-enactment of the farm mortgage moratorium laws.

Within the next six months, laws granting a stay of foreclosures expire in 17 of the 30 states that have adopted such measures.

The debt relief laws expire in California on Feb. 1 and in Arizona on March 4.

Foreclosures Grow

Farm Research Inc. figures show that already foreclosures are increasing rapidly. In the first five months last year Federal Land Banks foreclosed on 6256 loans, compared with 4693 for the same period in 1935.

Farm Research Inc. suggests that the farmers also press for these changes in the laws: (1) make the moratorium mandatory and not subject to the whim of the courts, (2) enlarge the instruments covered to include chattel mortgages and real estate liens and judgements, (3) outlaw deficiency judgments.

De Jonge Decision Hits at C.S. Law

(Continued From Page One)

as an organization advocating force and violence as an instrument to effect change in industrial control.

Nugent announced that a meeting of the conference leadership will be held in the next few days to consider a petition campaign to the state legislature demanding the repeal of the California act.

Campaign Plans

Nugent announced tentative plans to ask 500 California labor and progressive leaders to petition the California legislature to this effect, supplementing the 100,000 signatures collected last summer in the initiative repeal campaign.

The conference will also be asked to consider making new demands on the State Board of Prison Terms and Paroles for the immediate release of the five Sacramento defendants who remain in prison: Nora Conklin, Caroline Decker, Jack Crane, Pat Chambers and Martin Wilson. Three of the eight convicted in the trial, Norman Mini, Lorine Normand and Al Hougardy, have been released.

Amer.-Hawaiian Builds Co. Union

(Continued From Page One)

in San Francisco, in anticipation of meeting with shipowners, at which hiring hall will be a key issue.

Brutal attack on pickets at United Fruit docks last Friday night by thugs, possibly sent by the discredited Lee Holman. Two pickets had to be sent to the hospital.

Defeat by Marine Firemen's members in San Francisco of a motion by reactionaries to bar Western Worker and other Communist papers from hall. This was defeated by 225 to 25.

Election of J. E. Ferguson as secretary of the Marine Firemen's Union was announced, after tabulation of voting was completed Monday. Joe Stanley, J. E. O'Neill and James McLaren were elected San Francisco patrolmen.

BUS DRIVERS STRIKE.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Union bus drivers tied up transportation over 83 miles of streets here when they struck for wage increases. 642 men went out.

STARVED ON 50 CENT WAGE, HE HELD UP A MAN

SAN JOSE. — William De Long, aged 33, was starving and he held up a man for $.0. He hadn't yet learned any other way out.

De Long has been sentenced to eight and a half years in Folsom penitentiary. He readily pleaded guilty to the charges against him.

"I was hungry and desperate," he told the Judge. "I had worked all day in the tomato fields and earned only 50 cents. This was not enough to buy the food I needed."

The Folsom Prison Board of Terms and Pardons set De Long's sentence.

British C.P. Calls For Republican Form of Govt.

LONDON—"The labor movement must end its support of a monarchy and institute a campaign for a republican form of government," declares a statement issued by the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Great Britain, following the abdication of iKng Edward.

The statement says the slogan, "The King has abdicated—Long Live the King!" is being used by Prime Minister Baldwin and the millionaire capitalists to "shore up the monarchy as a bulwark for reaction, for the monarchy has been for long the mere tool of the big capitalists, and they want a tool that will not break in their hands, as Edward has done."

The statement concludes:

Need Labor Govt. Again

"The Communist Party declares that the main lesson of these last days is the need of creating a united labor movement, strong enough to drive the national government from power, and secure the return of a labor government which will carry out a program of improving the position of the workers, which will realize a close alliance with France and the Soviet Union, in a common peace policy, and which will thus pave the way for tremendous advances in the common struggle for democracy, peace and Socialism.

"To do this the alliance between the Labor leaders and Baldwin must be broken and the united Labor movement developed in Britain. Along these lines decisive blows can be struck against the forces behind Baldwin and those who hoped to use the exiled King in the interest of the blackest reaction."

TOLLER WILL SPEAK IN S.F.

SAN FRANCISCO. — Ernst Toller, renowned playwright exiled from Nazi Germany, will speak here Wednesday, January 13, at 8 p.m. at the Tivoli Theater, Eddy St. near Market.

Toller's subject will be "Fascism, the Menace to World Peace."

The revolutionary exiled playwright, to whom the influential liberal English review New Statesman and Nation referred as "one of the most outstanding personalities of post-war Europe," will outline forces in Nazi Germany which are working overtime trying to plunge Europe and the world in another war.

Although Toller's point of view is now described by himself as pacifist, he has a background of participation in revolutionary events of major significance in post-war Germany.

In prison, Toller wrote his most famed play, "Men and Masses," was produced by Max Reinhardt while Toller was still jailed.

Toller was in Switzerland when Hitler came to power in January, 1933, but was tried in his absence and deprived of his German citizenship by Nazi court ruling.

Toller is an intimate friend of Carl von Ossietsky, whose selection as joint winner of the Nobel peace prize for 1936 embarrassed the Nazis and forced his release from a concentration camp. He will be introduced by Eric Ric, exiled German trade unionist now residing in San Francisco.

New Guffey Bill to Be Introduced

WASHINGTON.—Senator Guffey of Pennsylvania has sent to the Government Printing Office the soft-coal regulation bill he intends to introduce at the opening of Congress.

The original Guffey Bill was declared unconstitutional by the U. S. Supreme Court because it called for the right to organize. The new bill carefully avoids offending the Supreme Court.

ASSOCIATED FARMERS HIT AT STRIKERS

Vigilantes Lead in Move Aimed at Harry Bridges

MODESTO—Author of a hundred murderous attacks on agricultural workers, the Associated Farmers have now put their two cents into the maritime situation, leading a campaign for the deportation of Harry Bridges.

The Associated Farmers has initiated a petition for Bridges' deportation, aiming for 35,000 signatures in Stanislaus County before making the petition statewide.

The reactionary big agricultural interests have made use of Joseph P. Ryan, international president of the I.L.A., in their move, pointing to Ryan's attack on the maritime strikers.

Tried Hard, Failed

Once before, when the Dept. of Labor tried to find grounds for deporting the popular maritime workers' leader, it was forced to admit that no such grounds existed.

How hard they tried can be seen from the report submitted by District Director Haaf of the Immigration Bureau to District Commissioner Edward W. Canill, which stated:

"In discharging the duties of my detail at the City Prison in investigations of aliens arrested and charged with crime, and of aliens arrested and charged with communistic or radical activities, I have maintained a very close contact with the crime prevention detail from a period long antedating the general strike in San Francisco until the present date. I therefore know that the officers of said detail have made constant effort to obtain evidence that would in any way connect the alien with radical organizations."

Labor in Demands As Congress Opens

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Organized labor was getting ready to cash in on its electoral mandate to President Roosevelt, involving definite gains for labor, as Congress convened last Tuesday, January 5th.

Labor was prepared to accept no excuses, for Roosevelt will have with him the greatest majority in both houses of Congress in the history of the United States.

In the House were 333 Democrats to 88 Republicans, with five Farmer - Labor representatives from Minnesota and eight Progressives. The Senate has 69 Democrats to 25 Republicans, with Senator Lundeen as Minnesota's Farmer-Labor representative and Senator LaFollette, Progressive of Wisconsin.

Spain May Be Hurt

President Roosevelt was to deliver his budget message to a joint session of Congress on Tuesday.

The Popular Frnt government of Spain, now fighting to maintain democracy, figured to be hurt by neutrality legislation to be proposed by the Administration, which would put a strict embargo on arms, munitions and actual implements of war to "belligerent nations and to factions engaged in civil war whenever, in the President's discretion there is danger of the U. S. becoming involved."

Recent shipment of airplanes to the Spanish government from New York is believed to prompt the civil war clause.

New Fascist Drive Crushed in Spain

(Continued From Page One)

that approximately 4000 Italian Fascist troops landed at Cadiz on January 1st from the transport Lombardia, as "volunteers" for General Franco.

On the seizure of the Spanish ships by the Nazis, Foreign Minister Julio del Vayo of Spain declared publicly:

"We are firmly resolved that whatever may happen we will not agree to any threat of agression by the German fleet. If it occurs we will reply immediately with all the means at our disposal."

Mexico Aids Spain

MEXICO CITY—In a message to Congress, President Cardenas confirmed the fact that 20,000 rifles and 20 million cartridges were sent to Cartagena, Spain, for the Spanish Popular Front government.

The Sil, Spanish freighter, has returned to Vera Cruz for repairs, and is laden with another cargo of arms, ammunition, airplanes and foodstuffs.

A Special Maritime Strike Page of News and Features

State of Present Negotiations

5 UNIONS ARE WAITING FOR BOSSES MOVE

Shipowners Still High-Handed In Blocking Peace

SAN FRANCISCO—The status of negotiations for all the West Coast maritime unions is summed up by the Joint Maritime Publicity Committee as follows:

Situation to Date

The situation on negotiations remains unchanged since last week. The only thing that has occurred is the intensified drive of the shipowners to attempt to sway public opinion to their side. The full page ads citing the false fact that three unions have **accepted** agreements and that "Bridges Blocks Peace" is intended for only one purpose—that is, to weaken the support of Organized Labor and the general public, and to weaken the position of those unions who have not even met with the shipowners. Scharrenberg still voices the shipowners' mind when he states: "Only one man (Bridges) stands between peace on the waterfront." As a matter of record, five unions are still waiting for the shipowners to make a "peace move."

Masters' Mates No. 90

The situation within the Local remains unchanged since the membership almost unanimously rejected the shipowners' demand that they withdraw Masters from the picket lines.

M.E.B.A. Status Quo

Here too, the Engineers' negotiation committee is still awaiting a call from the shipowners. Their demands are also cut to a minimum. It is still the shipowners' move.

A.R.T.A. Also Waiting

And so with the A.R.T.A. Their demands are well known to the employers. Their negotiating committee found preferential hiring rejected by T. G. Plant on Monday last.

Marine Cooks & Stewards in Fight for 8-Hour Day

The Cooks' Negotiating Committee withdrew when the shipowners still refused to grant the "8 hour in 12" day. No agreement or proposal has been submitted by the shipowners. The negotiating committee is patiently awaiting the call of the shipowners to resume negotiations.

Marine Firemen Have Not Voted On Proposal

The Firemen have a tentative proposal which is being circulated amongst their members along the entire Coast, but it has not been voted upon. No vote will be taken **until the other unions have received and considered tentative agreements from the shipowners.**

Sailors' Union Membership Have Not Yet Voted

The Sailors have received a tentative proposal which although concurred in at their membership meeting of December 21st, has not been submitted to a Coast vote of the membership despite the claims of the shipowners through their full page ads. The Sailors will go down the line with the rest of the Maritime Federation, despite the attempts of the shipowners' publicity to infer that the Sailors' "are being blocked in their peace efforts."

I.L.A. Have Yet to Meet With Plant

The I.L.A. negotiating committee have not yet met with the employers since the strike was called. On Tuesday they were about to meet with the shipowners. The I.L.A. negotiating committee decided to be last in meeting with the employers. They will exert that much more pressure upon the shipowners when dealing with the numerically smaller crafts.

With more than one East Coast ship waiting to leave the East Coast manned by scabs, and about twelve hundred East Coast seamen picketing East Coast ships in Pedro; no clear settlement guaranteeing unqualified peace can be possible, unless some provision is made for the striking East Coast seamen. The joint policy committee has not yet offered a definite policy on this, but indications are that the East Coast seamen will consider it an overwhelming victory if they can force a referendum vote of the membership along the Atlantic and Gulf Coast, supervised by the Government, which will decide who is to represent them in negotiations with the shipowners. In his speech at the mass meeting Bridges pointed out that this would be a double victory for the East Coast seamen. It would enable them to kick out the discredited reactionary I.S.U. leadership and force the shipowners to recognize the rank and file leadership in future bargaining and negotiations.

A.F.L. UNIONS IN NEW YORK TELL JOE RYAN THEY'LL GO ON HELPING STRIKING EAST SEAMEN

NEW YORK.—Defying attacks by Joseph P. Ryan, president of the International Longshoremen's Union, Louis Weinstock, secretary-treasurer of Painters District Council No. 9, and Charles Zimmerman, manager of Local 22, International Ladies Garment Workers Union, yesterday reaffirmed the pledge they made at Madison Square Garden last week that these two powerful unions will give all possible support for the victory of the maritime strikers.

Hit Ryan

Weinstock declared:

"The Painters District Council No. 9 has 40 local unions in New York City. All are affiliated with the District Council and the Central Labor Union, all paying the per capita tax to the Central Labor Union. The local union delegates reported back to their locals in the last few days that Ryan is trying to break the seamen's strike. As a result of this, strong resolutions were adopted to condemn him for his action.

"This was not my action but the action of 13,000 members. I only expressed the sentiment of these members at Madison Square Garden. Ryan's quarrel with Zimmerman and myself in reality are quarrels with the union membership.

"Unions in the city of New York representing 75 per cent of the total A.F.L. membership are in support of the seamen's strike morally and financially. Therefore Ryan does not speak in the name of the membership.

No Rights In I.L.A.

"The reason the longshoremen do not speak up is that they are deprived of their democratic rights from expressing their views on the question. Where they have the opportunity, they speak up as in Baltimore where the police had to save Ryan from his own members."

Charles Zimmerman said:

"Whether Ryan likes it or not, whether he shouts one thing or another, whether he calls people names or not, we are going to support the strike. We will help them financially the same as we are helping all other strikers.

"And Ryan knows better than any one else that we are first to respond to any group of strikers.

"I did not indulge in calling names at Madison Square Garden. I called for a union house-cleaning and support of the seamen's strike."

Shipowners Says Fink Book Aimed At Unions—Calls Them 'Bad Actors'

NEW YORK—Striking seamen are prepared to picket the coming session of Congress to record their opposition to the Federal Government's plans regarding continuous discharge books for employees on American ships, it was announced by Joseph Curran, chairman of the strikers' strategy committee.

Curran said a committee of six men, representing the sailors', stewards' and firemen's branches of the International Seamen' Union, on strike for a new wage contract, had been appointed by the strikers to represent them in fighting the scheme as it now stands and to recommend amendments to the Copeland Act, in which the plan is embodied.

The men do not object directly to the discharge books, in which the date of each discharge at the end of a voyage will be recorded, Curran said. They are opposed, however, to terms of the law which, they charge, give the ship lines an opportunity to blacklist employes for union activities or for reasons which have nothing to do with their ability as seamen, he said.

"Each book will have a number," said Curran, "and the number of every man who comes under the wrath of the shipowners will be circulated among the ship lines with notes on his character, thus building up a legal blacklist that eventually will smash the seamen's unions. Every seaman will be in danger of his job, whatever his talents may be.

"A system of examining boards will be set up where men may be tried on charges, but the men have no assurance of fairness in the appointment of members of the boards and may well be broken by their operation. A seaman who has to stand about waiting for trial cannot support himself. Then, too, the wide berth given ships' officers as complainants against the men, as provided by the bill, makes seamen veritable slaves.

"No good seaman is afraid to carry his record on him, but this proposal ties us down so firmly that a good seaman, if he has any mind of his own, will soon have no record at all."

Commander Robert C. Lee, vice president of Moore & Mc Cormack, who represented the United States at the recent international conference at Geneva on maritime labor, issued a statement supporting the continuous discharge books.

"This proposal," he said, "was passed by Congress after due deliberation, and it also was supported by labor. It carries no penalty except to incompetent seamen or bad actors, of whom we already have too many."

Strikers Get Protest Buttons

Several thousand buttons have been issued to striking seamen, proclaiming the unwillingness of the wearers to carry the proposed discharge books.

From Rubber Local $2200 to Seamen

AKRON, Ohio.—After hearing H. F. Cook, a striking seaman, the Goodrich local voted $500 from its treasury and pledged to raise $1,500 more through a shop collection to aid the maritime strikers and made arrangements for Joe Curran, leader of the striking East Coast seamen to speak at a mass meeting here next Sunday. President Dalrymple of the United Rubber Workers' of America presented Cook with credentials to appear before all locals of the union to appeal for the support to the striking seamen.

HELP STRIKE, NEGROES URGED

Resolution Calls On Them Not To Scab

SAN FRANCISCO — Negro workers are called on to refuse to be used as strikebreakers, in a resolution adopted by the San Francisco Joint Strike Committee, I.L.A. 38-79 strike committee and the National Negro Congress in Oakland.

The resolution, introduced by L. Greer, E. Richardson, and Joe White, Negro members of the I.L.A. 38-79 executive board states:

WHEREAS: We, the Colored Brothers of the Maritime Industry, as a real example of unity between white and Negro workers, have witnessed too many of our Negro brothers being drafted into the role of strike-breakers, through misunderstanding and racial prejudice stirred up by the shipowners' allies, and

WHEREAS The strongest argument the shipowners use in urging Negro brothers to scab is that of the so-called discrimination against the Negroes by the white brothers in the maritime industry, and

WHEREAS: This cry of discrimination raised by the shipowners is false as proven by the fact that prior to 1934, when the Company "Blue Book Union" existed—only thirty-four Negro longshoremen were employed on the San Francisco waterfront, and today, with Union control of hiring and dispatching, there are seven hundred Negro brothers working on the waterfront, and

WHEREAS: Not only do we share in the work but work under the same conditions as our white brothers, share equally in the use of the Union Recreation Center side by side with the white brothers, and drink out of the same tank, dispelling all false statements of the shipowners' "scabherder," one Lee Holman, and others, and

WHEREAS: In the best interests of both white and Negro workers, we must unite further to improve the lot of all Negro workers and defeat the union wrecking attempts of the employers, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That we, the Negroes in the Maritime industry call upon all Negro brothers to refuse to be drafted as strikebreakers by Lee Holman or any other agents of the employers, and, be it further

RESOLVED: That all Negroes lend their active support and aid to speed a successful conclusion to this strike, which will benefit both Negro and white workers throughout the entire nation, and be it further

RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to all trade unions and to all Negro organizations and churches.

Youth Leaders of San Jose Boost Assembly

SAN JOSE.—California Youth Act sponsors and promotional committee members report rapid progress in stimulating interest here for the Assembly of Youth to be held in San Francisco Jan. 9 and 10. Many local youth leaders are members of the promotional committee, Clara Waldo of the Y.W.C.A., Austin Warburton, Y.M.C.A., and James Rouse of the Junior Statesmen.

RYAN'S PALS



STRIKEBREAKERS, Bergoff's men, used as scabs against East Coast maritime strike, are shown "drilling." They're helping Joe Ryan and the I. S.U. officials to break the strike.

PEDRO ON ONE-MAN BUSINESS

Blast False Reports In "Cap" Press

SAN PEDRO—The joint central strike committee in San Pedro voted special instructions to the publicity committee that all releases to the press shall emphasize that no one man is responsible for the present holdup of negotiations. Further, that no one man could hold up negotiations, even if he wished to.

It states:

"For many days now the papers have been playing up the line that one man has blocked all moves toward settling the strike. What are the actual facts? The facts are simply that the shipowners tried to rush two unions into voting an agreement before doing anything in the way of coming to an accord with the remaining organizations.

"If the shipowners really want to end the strike, why are they refusing to negotiate also with the remaining five unions? The papers have further carried the implication that our officials are holding up a settlement until the Atlantic Coast men get their demands. This is an untrue statement. No action of this kind has been taken. The original program laid down and placed on our records was to the effect that the Pacific Coast unions would settle separately from the East Coast. Likewise, that the East Coast might settle first, if they got a chance, without waiting for the West Coast, if they got any decent chance to do so. This program has not been officially altered, so far as we are aware."

The papers are guilty of deliberate misrepresentation when they give a different impression. A careful reading of their columns reveals a clever method of giving the wrong slant to things. They hint that one of our executives, all by himself has spiked the entire negotiation program until the Atlantic Coast is dealt with in full. But they don't print a single word of direct statement. Why? Because they have nothing to go on. They are only building up a mass of false reports, misleading insinuations, and discord-breeding allegations. It is exceedingly important that we ourselves, at least, get our information from our own official sources, and not from the press.

F.D.R. Has 76 Demos In U.S. Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Roosevelt will have a hard time finding an excuse for not making good his promises to labor and the people. Herbert Hitchcock, Democrat, has been appointed to fulfill the Senate vacancy created by death of Senator Norbeck, Republican of South Dakota, running the Democratic membership in the Senate to 76, highest party total in history.

WHO BLOCKS WATERFRONT PEACE ON WEST COAST?

SAN FRANCISCO. — Who's blocking peace on the West Coast waterfronts?

Let the joint maritime unions' publicity committee give the answer:

Who's blocking peace? — say the shipowners. In answer to charges that the unions are responsible the unions offer the following evidence:

1. The heavy publicity barrage leveled against Harry Bridges with full-page ads in the newspapers is hardly likely to make peaceful and reasonable negotiations easier.

"Standing By"

2. The negotiating committee of the Marine Cooks and Stewards reports that they have been "standing by" for a week, during which time the shipowners have refused to accede to the request of Asst. Secy. of Labor McGrady that direct representatives of the "Big Three" companies step in and work out a basis for settlement of the vital question of hours of labor.

3. The Masters, Mates and Pilots also report that they have been standing by, ready to meet and work toward a speedy settlement. However, says H. P. Melnikow, representative for the union, "Apparently the celebration of Christmas and the holiday season was of greater importance to the shipowners than the settlement of the maritime dispute."

4. The owners are repeating their tactics of 1934, namely, trying to shove incomplete agreements down the throats of the unions. Complete, not partial settlement, is what the unions want. And it will never be achieved by the stops and jerks which the shipowners are causing.

Employer attacks on the maritime leaders are a subtle form of attempting to dictate who shall represent the union members. The unions don't find many of the shipowners' representatives very paltable, but the unions don't take it upon themselves to tell the shipowners who their representatives shall be.

Relief Discrimination

RESENTMENT GROWS AGAINST RYAN'S INCREASE OF DUES

NEW YORK.—Growth of resentment against another of Joe Ryan's reactionary measures is reported among I.L.A. members by the "Shapeup", issued by progressive members of the I.L.A. in New York.

Says the "Shapeup":

On Jan. 1st, we started paying the $1.50 per quarter extra for dues. This increase was railroaded through the District Council by a vote of twenty to two.

Very few of the I.L.A. brothers had an opportunity to vote on it. How could they, when out of 38 locals, only 11 have regular local meetings? In these locals, it met with strong opposition.

In Local 791 it was jammed through by a small group of machine stooges who get the best work and are not much affected by 50c a month extra.

In the coastwise Local 1258 at the last meeting, it was tabled because the officials could see that they couldn't put it over. Why the increase? That's the question every longshoreman is asking. Is the union short of money? Or does Joe Ryan need an increase in wages? (Maybe $15,000 a year is not enough.)

Where is all the money going to? We have had no financial reports from any locals or from the district council in years. We get no sick or death benefits, and no strike benefits have been paid in 15 years. Is it because we got a nickel an hour increase? If so, we can prove that since the nickel increase, we are earning less, not more. On every dock in the port, this dues robbery is being talked about. From Jersey, Brooklyn, and all over Manhattan we get the same reports, and something must be done to stop it.

The Editorial Committee suggests to the I.L.A. membership, in the port, that a city- wide referendum be drawn up so that every longshoreman will have the right to vote on this most important question, and that protests be written into the district council against these high-handed methods. In locals that meet, the brothers should draft resolutions condemning the dues increase and demanding a port-wide referendum be made. Only in this way will we be able to defeat this bare-faced robbery.

San Pedro Striker Urges Labor Party Action by Marine Unions

(By a Maritime Worker)
(JOE F., San Pedro)

Shall we, the maritime workers of the Pacific Coast, make an effort to crystallize those liberal and progressive forces that are now backing us in this strike?

Let us analyze the issue on which these forces are backing the marine groups now.

First of all, they are backing us against the fascist efforts of the Big Three shipowners, Matson, Dollar, and American-Hawaiian, those employers who are fascist-minded and are aligned with Hearst—who have for their ultimate aim fascism on the waterfront in its American form. They would have us stick to the non-partisan policies of the William Greens.

Independent Action

I think it is time that the Maritime Unions must take this decisive step to go forward in the direction of Labor's Non-partisan League's American Labor Party, and bend every effort to bring about a Farmer-Labor Party on a national scale.

But we still have with us those trade-unionists who tell us that labor unions should not use political action. No doubt some of these union leaders are confused with the issue. They see no danger of fascism.

But let me quote excerpts from a speech made by Governor Landon, the man who represented the most fascist-minded reactionaries of America in the last election. Landon while speaking before a group of workers in an industrial town in Ohio, made the following statement:

"I have always admired the courage of Samuel Gompers, for his wisdom kept the American Federation of Labor from the great temptation to participate in party politics."

But Landon was speaking for Wall Street, and not for the interests of the workers. The Landons, the Greens, and the Ryans know only too well that when the workers resort to independent political action their own game is lost.

Who can say that William Green is not a politician? Hasn't he been hanging around Washington for years? Isn't Joseph P. Ryan connected with the Tammany Hall machine?

Results for Workers

But this is not the independent political action of which I speak. I refer to independent political action which produces beneficial results for the workers, such as was used in the case of the police appropriations in San Pedro.

Here we find the shipowners, through their stooges in the political machine of Los Angeles, trying to appropriate tax-payers' money to the sum of $45,000 to be used for tear gas and bullets to beat the workers into submission at the shipowners' will.

It was only through the uniting of all progressive and liberal people on this issue, coupled with the strength of the trade unions, that the shipowners' aims were defeated.

The Maritime Unions, at their convention last Spring, adopted resolutions against vigilantism. They favored the American Youth Act. They opposed the forces of armed agression. The only way that we, the Maritime workers, can carry this into life is by uniting for independent political action and building a powerful American People's Front against Fascism, reaction, and war.

This is the only way the Maritime Unions will realize collective security on the water front, and go forward to a future of peace, progress, and really an American standard of living—better life!

Congressman Hits N. Orleans Terror

NEW ORLEANS—The extreme police terror against striking seamen in this port has aroused Thomas R. Amlie, member of Congress from Wisconsin, to make the following statement:

"The determination of the vested interests in the city of New Orleans to crush the organized labor movement has created a situation that is of the gravest concern to everyone interested in free government and orderly progress. It is a curious commentary that some of the worst attacks that have been made on civil liberties during the past few years have been made by groups and in areas that have been particulaarly fortunate insofar as federal bounties are concerned.

"There are, for instance, few cities in the United States that have received more money from the federal government during the past thirty years than has the city of New Orleans. I am thinking particularly of the federal funds spent in that city for river and harbor improvements.

"I sincerely hope that the federal government during the next four years will make every effort to see that the Bill of Rights is given effect."

The Name Isn't So Important—It's the Phoney Officials

SAN FRANCISCO—Announcement has been received from the International Seamen's Union that as of September 23, 1936, a charter has been granted to the Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific, Bay, Sound and River Division of the International Seamen's Union of America, to have jurisdiction over all members employed on bay, sound and river craft on the Pacific Coast.

The charter was granted at the request of the Ferryboatmen's Union of the Pacific District Union, International Seamen's Union of America.

ALLIANCE AND UNIONS HIT THIS PRACTICE

Smacks of Aim to Cause Maritime Strikebreaking

LOS ANGELES—That a deliberate policy of strike-breaking is being carried on by the Los Angeles County Relief Administration in denying relief aid to striking maritime workers was charged in a protest meeting of 44 militant members of the Workers' Alliance and the striking unions, headed by Loretta Adams and J. Eggen, with Roy W. Pilling, Los Angeles Relief Director.

Admit Discrimination

Flatly admitting that a policy of discrimination is being enforced against the strikers in the Harbor area, Pilling declared that

"Every single man in Los Angeles County if he is eligible for relief will be given aid unless he is a striker!"

Balked in his efforts to "pass the buck" for responsibility in denying aid to strikers onto State Administrator Pomeroy, Piling was forced by the committee to produce what he termed to be his "orders"—a letter from Pomeroy, which definitely said that no ruling had been laid down denying relief to men on strike.

"Pursuant to our conversation," the letter, signed by Pomeroy, read, "relative to the administration of relief in the event applications are effected by strike, this letter will confirm our general practice."

"Labor disputes occur and continue under such differing circumstances and conditions that it is utterly unreasonable to lay down any arbitrary regulations to be used to determine whether or not relief will be extended in a given case," the letter continued.

With 2,000 workers involved in the relief situation, members of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific, the Firemen's Union, the Marine Cooks and Stewards' union and the International Longshoremen's Association representing more than 4,000 rank and file strikers were present at the protest meeting.

As a reason for the Relief Administration's refusal to extend aid to strikers, Pilling maintained that it had been his "general understanding" that the "unions had agreed to care for the single, unattached men and for families of only two persons."

Pressed for the source of this "understanding" by militant Workers' Alliance spokeswoman Loretta Adams, Pilling tried vaguely to pin it on Miss K. Bergman, Long Beach Relief Director, but finally admitted:

"Frankly, I don't know."

Bergman stated, it was charged by the committee, that she had made an agreement with the Central Strike Committee relief committee composed of Mr. Hunt, Mrs. Bruce, Mr. Patterson, and Mr. Hanvey, whereby the Central Strike Committee was to care for all single men and families of two persons.

Asked to substantiate this charge, Miss Bergman stated that it was not an agreement but just "an understanding." She further denied having said to a committee composed of 35 Workers' Alliance members and seven members of the S.U.P. that the policy of the Relief Administration was "discrimination inasmuch as any other single, resident man is receiving $18.70 per month."

Pilling disclaimed any responsibility for Bergman's actions, but stated that "she was carrying out what I understand to be the general policy."

Stating that the Workers' Alliance is going "to cooperate to the last ditch" with the maritime unions in getting relief, Mrs. Adams declared:

"The Workers' Alliance holds Mr. Pilling responsible for the fate of his relief clients. We demand immediate relief for single strikers."

Workers and sympathizers with the maritime strikers are urged to send in letters protesting the policy of discrimination carried on by the State Relief Administration. Letters should be sent to Roy W. Pilling 741 S. Flower Street, Los Angeles, and to Harold E. Pomeroy, California Relief Administration, San Francisco.

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Stop the $4,000,000,000 Steal!

PRIVATE OIL producers have started a maneuver to steal $4,000,000,000 worth of oil lands from the state of California. These oil deposits, located in submerged lands off the coast of Southern California, are the property of the State—and as such cannot be obtained by these private companies without submitting the matter of any proposed sale to the popular will of the people in a referendum election.

Therefore the producers have resorted to the maneuver of petitioning the Federal government to institute suit to recover the lands, which, the petitioners contend, have been appropriated by the State without an Act of Congress. Once the Federal government has obtained the land, the producers feel that it will be a relatively simple matter to buy them back since the deal will not then have to be put up to the people; or, perhaps, lease the land at a low rate and operate it at a huge profit.

We are not here concerned with the technical intricacies of the law. We see several simple facts: **there is untold millions to be derived by proper operation of these fields; this stretch of land, approximately 200 miles along the coast, has been pierced by only** three wells; they are now in possession of **the state, which is pleading inability to cope with the problem of unemployment relief and is talking of handing the burden back to the counties.**

Why cannot the state float a bond issue—if needed—to finance putting these fields to use to produce oil; **the profits to be used to finance the operation of an unemployment and social insurance law?**

If there are millions in it for the private oil producers—surely the state can use these same millions for the benefit of the people of the state!

Extend Farm Mortgage Moratorium

THE EYES of the small farmers of California are turned upon the state and federal legislatures as they convene—for on February first the farm mortgage moratorium expires in California, and unless immediate steps are taken to secure the re-enactment of this debt relief law the small farmers are going to be swept off their land. With the rise in land values which became noticeable recently, creditors will find that foreclosing on farm mortgages decidedly attractive.

There is at this time as much need—if not more—for these debt relief laws as there was when they were first passed as an emergency measure. Farm income for 1936 is still 25 per cent below that of 1929.

Pressure must be brought to bear on legislators to re-enact the moratorium laws, with certain much-needed amendments; **the law should be mandatory in its application, so that the farmer in need of debt relief does not have to rely on the whim of the court to decide whether or not this relief should be extended to him; the law should be made to cover chattel mortgages, real estate liens and judgments, which can be just as embarrassing to the farmer as the mortgage on his farm; and it should outlaw deficiency judgments. In this way the moratorium can be of real aid to the small farmer.**

This would effectively end evictions and foreclosures.

The legislative program of the Communist party nationally also calls for the refinancing of farm loans at low interest rates from a three billion dollar fund to be established by taxing high incomes, inheritances and corporate wealth.

Federal and State legislatures should act promptly to relieve the small farmer.

We Wish Mr. Vandeleur Would Explain

THE "Labor Clarion," organ of the San Francisco Labor Council, and mouthpiece of Edward Vandeleur, comes out with a blast against the People's Legislative Conference, scheduled for the 16th and 17th of this month, at Sacramento.

The conference, this paper declares, "has no connection whatever with organized labor" and also declared that "labor will be represented at Sacramento by its own lobby, as it has been in former years."

Why this attack? We should like to have Mr. Vandeleur's explanation—and a better attempt at a reasonable explanation than the one contained in the published story, which merely hints darkly that Communists are supporting the conference. Or is there no other explanation than the formula which states that everything that Communists support Mr. Vandeleur attacks?

That must be it, for surely Mr. Vandeleur and Mr. O'Connell cannot really be against any of the proposed legislative measures with which the proposed conference will deal! Measures calling for adequate unemployment and social insurance, for protection of civil liberties, for outlawing of vigilantism, for repeal of the unpopular sales tax, and so on.

Yes, labor has always had lobbyists at Sacramento—**but these lobbyists did not make use of the mass pressure of the people to kill certain anti-labor laws, such as the criminal syndicalism law, and to have pro-labor legislation passed.** They worked as individual agents.

We should think that these regular lobbyists, such as Mr. Vandeleur and Mr. O'Connell, would welcome all possible popular support for pro-labor and pro-people's legislation. Instead they attack the People's Legislative Conference.

Employers Do a Ghandi

WHEN workers go on strike for the fundamental demands of decent wages and working conditions, the employers always wave the stars and stripes and exhort the men to go back to work for the sake of their country. It is unpatriotic to strike, they declare. Strikes are all right for the "backward masses of Europe"—but they are decidedly "un-American."

Along comes the Walsh-Healey Act—and large scale employers of labor conveniently forget their patriotism. The Walsh-Healey Act is part of the law of the land, that law which the employers so stoutly maintain must be observed, to the letter and spirit, at all times. But the Walsh-Healey law is probably an "un-American" law, in the eyes of these employers, for it provides that all government contracts over $10,000 shall be negotiated only with firms having adopted specific maximum hours and minimum wages for their workers.

Of course, these employers dont openly come out and declare the law is un-American. Oh no. They merely use what pressure they can to render it ineffective—besides lobbying for its repeal. So that when the Navy Department asks for bids for purchasing 2,600,000 pounds of copper, **not one firm enters its bid!** The copper producers of the country (they can't be acting in combination, naturally, for combines in restraint of trade are against the law!) all do a Ghandi—and resort to passive resistance, or silent sabotage. The navy also had similar trouble with bids for steel.

It seems that to some Americans laws are either "American" or "un-American" according to whether they benefit the open-shop interests or not.

Brazil's Political Prisoners May Go On Hunger Strike

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil.—Political prisoners in jail at Para, awaiting "trial" in connection with the Brazilian people's revolt in November, 1935, may go on strike in protest against their imprisonment and against the terror directed by the Vargas government against the Brazilian people, it was learned here.

The government released 40 political "suspects," after a Hitler-like "security tribunal" indicted 156 political prisoners. They had been in jail since late 1935.

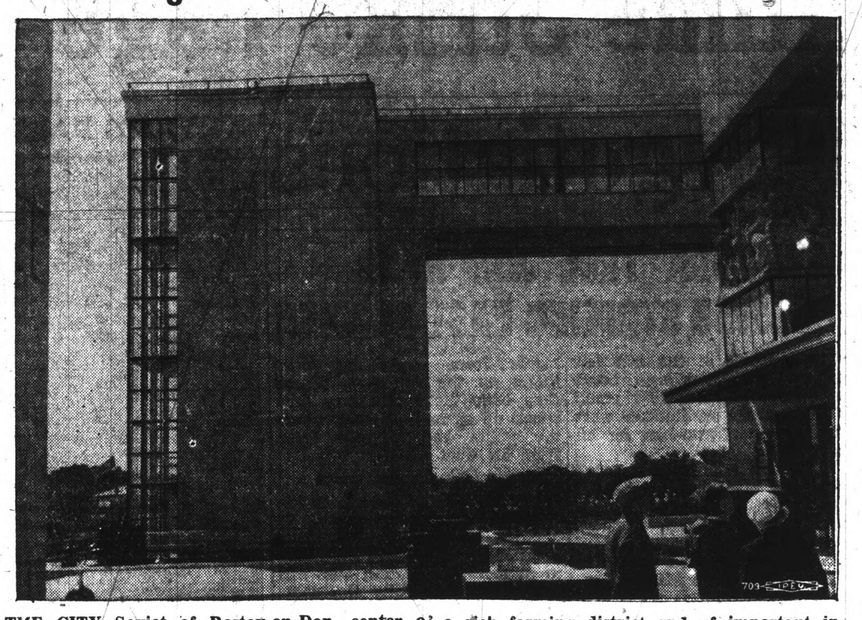
When President Roosevelt was nearing Brazil, a motion was introduced in Congress asking release of political prisoners in honor of the visit. At that time the Ministry of Justice said steps were under way for release of many "suspects," that the long detention had been caused by difficulties in getting bona fide evidence—in other words, frame-up stories that would not hold water even in the semi-Fascist Brazilian courts.

Charge Conspiracy to Keep U.S. in Philippines

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Foreign Policy Association, in a published report, charged the new Philippines defense plan was a "covert conspiracy to keep the United States in the islands."

The predominant objective of the plan, said the report, was the creation of a strong American military and naval base in the Philippines "as an outpost of American power in the Far East."

The Largest Theater—and All for the Workers



THE CITY Soviet of Rostov-on-Don, center of a rich farming district and of important industrial undertakings, built the above huge structure dedicated to development of the drama, and named in honor of workers' beloved writer, late Maxim Gorky.

On to Successful Conclusion of The Cal. Recruiting Drive

(San Francisco County Organizer, Communist Party)

Fourteen hundred new fighters for Socialism have entered the ranks of our Party, within the brief period of the past thirteen weeks. Our chest swells with deep pride at the recruiting capacity of our Party and the power of attraction our Party holds for the laboring people of California.

Embattled sea and dock workers, bitterly exploited agricultural workers of the vast "factory-fields" of our State, workers of inland transport, workers of building, metal, food, textile, needle, toilers of professions, intellectuals, small tradesmen — all these, a cross-section of American common folk, make up the 1400 who are now with us, ready to share with us—nay, who are already sharing with us, our noble work to move California's teeming millions of toilers towards a better and happier life, towards Socialism.

Are We Satisfied

Yes indeed. It's a darned good job our California Party did, getting all these workers to join our numbers. But—are we fully satisfied? Oh no! And why not?

Because the enrollment was not even in all counties, sections, and units. (Some did rapid, steady recruiting, others in jerks, still others a painfully slow job.)

Because, only one-third of the membership did the recruiting.

Because not all the new members are given their pre-unit schooling properly.

Because, not all new members are given the personal comradely attention by those who recruited them.

Because the dues payments in a number of counties, sections and units did not go up in full proportion with the membership increase; and

Because our 1937 membership registration is only two-thirds done so far, instead of 100%.

On "Because No. 1," S. F., with 500 members, recruited 462 new members, while Los Angeles, with 1300 recruited but 432. Alameda, with 250 members, recruited 123; San Diego with 150 recruited only 25. The 20th Assembly District Branch in San Francisco recruited 72 new members while the 27th A.D. Branch in the same city recruited but 16.

On "Because No. 2": In San Francisco, Los Angeles and Alameda County 1017 new Party members have been recruited by only 331 comrades.

On "Because No. 3": Unless the newcomers into our Party are given proper schooling before they enter the regular units, they will be badly handicapped in their work henceforth.

On "Because No. 4": You recruited a new member into the the Party. He looks to you, largely, to help him and guide him in his new environment. You must therefore bring him to the new members class, inquire how he gets along there, and make sure that he is placed in a regular unit. All that, you owe to him and to the Party. It's not much, yet it helps the Party tremendously.

On "Because No. 5 and 6": A Communist who is persistently behind in his dues is not much of a Communist. A Communist who ignores the Party's request to register in his unit does the Party a grave injury. He blocks the Party's efforts to maintain an orderly, intelligent accounting of its membership. He thereby weakens the Party's working and fighting capacity.

Mass Actions

Our Party in California is now busily occupied with many mass actions: Marine and smaller strikes; post-election legislative program; unemployed workers' fight for bread; people's fight for peace and for Spain; and many other actions. Hand in hand with this must go the building of the Party.

Before us are important dates—now that the holiday season is over.

Lenin Memorial Day, Jan. 21. This day marks the end of the Browder-Ford Enrollment Drive. Let us have the biggest, most crowded meetings on that day—well prepared, well carried through, and with a goodly sum made for the Western Worker. The remaining three weeks should see a supreme effort of every single Party member—old and new—to bring one new member. It can be done—it will be done.

February 6 and 7. Best Party Builders Jubilee Congress. You who enrolled 8 or 9 members, make it 10, be a full-fledged delegate. You who enrolled three or four—make it five so that you may be a fraternal delegate and get those fine prizes—tokens of your fine work for the Party. All of you, full-fledged delegates, come to the Congress with your personal experiences. Come prepared to tell us how you did that job, so that the whole Party may benefit, so that recruiting of new members may go on in our Party as a part of our normal, daily work.

The Soviet workers and peasants, who have already abolished the exploitation of man by man, and are therefore the sole owners of their shops, mines and fields, have established the custom of bringing gifts to their Congresses, samples of their produce, their pride and joy. May we make a suggestion? Let us, California Communists, bring to our Party Builders Congress on Feb. 6-7, reports on tangible results in the two current important campaigns of our Party.

100% average dues paying membership of our respective counties—in full proportion with our membership increase.

100% fulfillment of our Western Worker Drive quotas—ahead of the time set for its completion.

Let's hear from other county and section organizers on that.

Personal Experiences in Recruiting

By IDA ROTHSTEIN

Fillmore Section Organizer

Because I was ill during the early part of the Recruiting Drive, I found it impossible to make new contacts or talk to my friends about joining the Party.

But about the last part of October I had my first opportunity to make contacts. At one of our election street meetings I noticed a young I.L.A. worker listening attentively to our speakers, who was formerly a party member but dropped out due to overwork in the Party.

A Conversation

We entered into a conversation and I told him that our Party is functioning differently today. I told him that now we have a special waterfront section which deals primarily with the problems of maritime workers. He was very much interested to hear that our Party is paying special attention to his craft and took some election material from me. Well, after about four weeks of concentrating on this friend, he joined the Party and is active in our present strike.

My next good contact was an I.L.A. member. I met him at branch meetings and noticed that he asked very intelligent questions. We had several discussions. I found that he respected the Party but felt that he wasn't sufficiently developed to become a member. However, when I explained to him that we don't expect every new Party member to be a Marxist and that the best time to receive this political education is when one is already in the Party. He told me that he wants to join our ranks.

Personal Probems

Among all of my recruits, and right now I have nine to my credit, in the present Membership Drive, I found that personal problems are primarily responsible for keeping them out of the Party. Most of our friends don't realize that our Party is anxious to know their problems and will help to solve them.

Here is an example. Another contact, an apartment house manager, didn't want to join because he was afraid of exposure. I had to tell him that it is our policy to try to protect such people by not placing them into open work and by using other precautions.

Another one was afraid of discipline. She heard so many distorted stories about our discipline that she was actually afraid to join. But after I explained to her how our Party maintains its discipline and what we expect from our comrades, she felt relieved and was ready to sign up.

Another friend, who is not a citizen, was afraid of deportation. I explained to him how we protected such comrades by not giving them open assignments, using an assumed name, etc.

In other words, comrades first should learn the personal problems of our friends who are close to our Party, but who will not join for one personal reason or another. It is my belief that if we know these problems we will be able to convince them that by joining the Party they will be better able to solve these obstacles.

Carpenters New Scale, C. Costa

RICHMOND.—Beginning January 1st, carpenters receive $1.12½ per hour for a forty-hour week, according to word from W. H. Galway, recording secretary of the local. The complete new scale is as follows:

$1.12½ per hour, 8 hours per day, 5 days, 40 hours per week. Straight time from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the first five days of the week and time and one-half for the first four hours after 5 p.m. and double time thereafter. Saturday and Sunday work will be for double time.

Soviet Union Will Train 150,000 Pilots in 1937

MOSCOW.—To strengthen defense against Nazi or Japanese aggression, 150,000 airplane pilots are to be trained in the U.S.S.R. in 1937.

The "grandfather of Russian aviation," B. I. Rossinsky, the first Russian pilot trained by Louis Bleriot, famous pioneer French flier, is touring from center to center arousing enthusiasm for aviation. He offers to train five new pilots at each stopping place.

Osoaviakhim, civilian air and general defense corps, reports it trained 9000 pilots in 1936, and plans to expand the present network of 167 air clubs to airfields in collective farm centers as well as in industrial areas.

AS WE SEE IT

By BILL SCHNEIDERMAN,
California State Secretary, Communist Party, U. S. A.

The Trade Unions in Politics

FOR YEARS the "non-partisan" policy of the American Federation of Labor, advocated by Samuel Gompers and inherited by Wililam Green, kept the trade union movement chained to the two capitalist political parties and hindered the use of Labor's political power to defend its interests. But when at the last convention of the A.F.L. the Executive Council fought against a Labor Party resolution with the amazing argument that "nothing has changed" to warrant a change in the policy of "Reward your friends and punish your enemies," they acted about as intelligently as an ostrich hiding his head in the sand... The old cry about "Keep the trade unions out of politics" is the favorite argument of reactionaries who want to prevent the labor movement from taking a clear stand on the vital political issues which face the working class today.

In 1936, the labor movement in spite of Green & Co. went into politics. The trade unions were one of the decisive factors in the presidential elections in the defeat of the Hearst-Landon-Liberty League combination. In Labor's Non-Partisan League, the American Labor Party of New York, the Farmer-Labor Progressive Federation of Wisconsin, the Farmer-Labor Party of Minnesota, and the Washington Commonwealth Federation, the trade unions made the first big stride toward independent political action, which pave the way for the building of a Farmer-Labor party.

In the coming months, new opportunities present themselves for independent political action by labor. The fight in Congress and in State Legislatures over social and labor legislation requires that the trade unions take up the defense of their most immediate interests and demands by building the independent political power of labor, allied with all other progressive people's organizations.

The California People's Legislative Conference to be held in Sacramento on January 17th should have the unqualified support of all the trade unions in California. The steps taken by the leadership of the State Federation of Labor to press forward a legislative program, especially the decisions of its last convention, are entirely inadequate. Little or nothing is being done to bring these issues before the Legislature as yet. The January 17th conference, if it has the backing of hundreds of local unions, district councils, and central labor bodies, can become a powerful force that will be felt in the legislative chambers, and force by mass pressure the adoption of labor legislation which the reactionary, pro-Fascist interests are bitterly opposing.

The coming spring elections, particularly in Los Angeles and Oakland, will give the trade unions another splendid opportunity to push forward to new advances on the political field. The Los Angeles Painters' District Council, in calling a conference on January 10th to discuss a policy for the municipal elections, is initiating an important step toward independent political action. Similarly, the January 16th conference being called in Oakland by the Alameda County Non-Partisan Political Federation of Labor, at the initiative of the Central Labor Council, will make it possible for Organized Labor to cut loose from old capitalist politicians and formulate its independent policy in the coming elections for county supervisors, etc.

The opponents of the Labor Party movement crowed too soon, when resolutions for independent political action were defeated in the 1936 conventions of the State Federation of Labor and the A.F.L. The trade unions are not content any longer to remain "silent partners" to the old capitalist political machines. These recent developments show that the labor movement is on the road to the building of a Farmer-Labor Party.

The Type They Use To Scab In East

SAN PEDRO—The San Pedro maritime strike bulletin prints the folowing from the East Coast to show the type of scab the companies use to man ships struck by the seamen on that coast:

In support of our contention that "A UNION CREW MEANS SAFETY FOR YOU!" witness the following reports from the East Coast:

The American steamship "Lebore," manned by a scab crew, recently crashed head-on into the English vessel "Thurland Castle" off Sparrows Point, Md. Of course, all kinds of phony excuses for the collision were given by the Bethlehem Steel Company, owners of the "Lebore," but the fact remains that SCAB SEAMEN ARE INCOMPETENT, INEFFICIENT AND UNSAFE TO VESSELS AND PASSENGERS, AS WELL AS TO ALL CRAFTS IN THEIR VICINITY!

The scab-manned "City of Ft. Worth," Southern Transportation Co. coastwise freighter, recently cleared Philadelphia bound for Houston, Texas. But the fink officers and crew soon showed their "seamanship" by crashing the vessel into a stone jetty at Fort Mifflen, smashing twenty-six plates on the bow.

The battered ship could not put in for repairs at the Sun Shipyards, where the workers are out on strike 100 per cent in sympathy with the seamen, nor did she dare proceed to the Camden yards of the New York Shipbuilding Co., where all employees had issued a ultimatum that they would walk out on strike the moment any scab-manned ship put in at the shipyard. U. S. steamboat inspectors refused to allow the wrecked hull to go out to sea and head for Houston. So at last reports the scabbby crew were franticaly keeping the pumps going while the ship slowly sank into the Deleware River.

It is conceded by marine officials in the Port of Philadelphia that when the strike is over extensive repairs will at once be necessary to many docks and piers which were damaged by inexperienced maneuvering of the scab crews of docking vessels.

All of which goes to prove that any seaman or ship's officer worthy of the name is a GOOD UNION MEMBER!

A Word on Ryan's "Federation"

NEW YORK.—What do the East Coast strikers think of Joe Ryan's announced marine transport department of the A.F.L.?

John Lawrenson, secretary of the seamen's strike strategy committee, said the striking group would have nothing to do with a federation with which Ryan was associated.

"Who will join Ryan's federation?" he asked. "He can get his own longshoremen and no one else. Seamen know him as an enemy who has tried to break this strike and will not trust his leadership.

"There will be a federation, however, formed of groups on the Atlantic and Gulf in concert with the federation already operating on the (Pacific) Coast. But Ryan won't control it."

THE COMMUNIST PARTY,
121 Haight Street,
San Francisco.
OR
224 South Spring Street, Room 409,
Los Angeles.
.....(Mark "X") I want to join
.....I want more information about
THE COMMUNIST PARTY
Name .....
Address .....
City..... State.....

YOUR HEALTH

By F. E. BISSELL, M.D.

Piles Are Cured With Salves, Injections, Or Operation, Depending on the Type

San Francisco, Calif.

DEAR DOCTOR BISSELL: I was operated on years ago for piles. Since then I have some irritation and mild bleeding Can you prescribe something to stop the irritation? E.W.

ANSWER—The treatment of piles varies according to whether they are on the outside or the inside.



Dr. Franklin E. Bissell

Piles on the outside or external piles, can often be cured, at least temporarily, through ointments and keeping the bowels well in order. You may have the following prescription put up by your druggist and may use this ointment several times a day, carrying it well up inside with the finger:

Ichthyoli	4.00
Acidi tannici	2.00
Unguenti belladonnae	16.00
Unguenti plumbi oleatis q. s. ad	32.00

The same measures may be used for piles on the inside, or internal piles, but they generally will not be sufficient. Internal piles are best cured either by operation or by the injection method. Operation has the disadvantage that it requires that it be done in a hospital and thus is more expensive and requires much more time. Most doctors therefore now use the injection method, which can be done in the office.

If the above measures do not cure a case of external piles, they must be cut out.

* * *

Cooking in Aluminum Utnsils Forms Combinations Which Are Not At All Harmful

Bolinas, Calif.

DEAR DOCTOR: Your article on aluminum surprised me. I read a report of an investigation of Dr. McGugan for the Federal Trade Commission in which he states that all kinds of poisons are formed by cooking in aluminum, and that it is forbidden by law to cook with aluminum in many countries, including Germany. G.E.

ANSWER—You are evidently misinformed about Germany. I lived there for a number of years and saw aluminum ware used everywhere. As stated in my previous article on this subject, cooking in such utensils does produce combinations of aluminum, but these chemical combinations are so very small in quantity that they cannot possibly do any harm.

$3000 TO WRITE 2 LABOR PLAYS

Prominent Theater People As Judges

NEW YORK—A committee of judges, composed of distinguished theater representatives and leaders of the cultural movements in the field of labor, has been formed for the purpose of selecting the two outstanding manuscripts submitted in the play contest sponsored by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Educational Committee, it was announced by Julius Hochman, President of Labor Stage, Inc., and chairman of the board of judges.

The contest, whose deadline has been shifted to July 1, 1937, carries two prizes totaling $3000 for the best full length original plays dealing with "social conflicts in contemporary American society."

The Judges

Barrett H. Clark, director of the Dramatists' Play Service, Inc., and author of many critical works on the theater; Chester B. Bahn, managing editor of the Film Daily; Sidney Howard, author of "The Silver Cord," and other successful plays; Worthington Miner, director of "200 Were Chosen," "Bury the Dead," and "Let Freedom Ring"; Hiram Motherwell, acting director of the Federal Theater Project; Lee Strasberg, director of "Johnny Johnson," and other Group Theater productions; and Peggy Wood, noted actress, are the theater people who have signified their intention of serving on the committee of Judges.

Julius Hochman, vice-president of the I.L.G.W.U. and President of Labor Stage; Max D. Danish, editor of "Justice," organ of the I.L.G.U., and Mark Starr, educational director of the same trade union, will represent the labor point of view on the board of judges.

In drawing up the rules for the contest, the international union's educational committee decided that the winning plays must express "the aspirations of the labor movement without, however, involving sectarian criticism of any party of the movement." It is further specified that playwrights are confined neither to any particular aspect of American life nor to any strata or section of its social makeup. The plays however, must meet the technical requirements of the theater.

Inquiries on the contest and scripts for it should be sent to Louis Schaffer, manager of Labor Stage, Inc., 106 West 39th Street, New York City.

Labor School Fights Lies

MENA, Ark.—Led by L. D. Summers, Baptist preacher, the wilder elements in Mena and vicinity are talking of "cleaning out" Commonwealth College, labor school. In self defense the school has asked the LaFollette senate committee on civil liberties to send investigators to end the campaign of lies against the college which achieved nationwide circulation in a recent issue of Liberty magazine.

Welcomes Investigation

"There exists immediate danger that the Rev. Mr. Summers will provoke a violent assault upon the teachers and students," Director Arthur Skreberg told the committee, asking that it "probe the repeatedly violent incitements of Mr. Summers." He also charged that reactionary Arkansas planters, one of whom was recently convicted of peonage, are exercising an anti-labor influence in the state legislature. Most residents of the county are friendly to the school, he said.

Charges in the Liberty article are denied by the school which welcomes federal investigation of the institution.

LABOR RIGHTS UPHELD

CHICAGO.—Judge Bonelli in municipal court discharged four members of the United Electrical and Radio Workers, arrested for distributing the "People's Press" to workers as they came out of the Zenith Corp.

'Greater Promise' New Soviet Film In Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES.—"A Greater Promise," new Soviet film which was widely applauded on its appearance in New York, will open its Western premier engagement Friday, January 15, at the Grand International Theater, 730 S. Grand Ave.

Based on the building of the autonomous Jewish Republic of Birobijan on the banks of the Amur River, the film is not only entertainment but an answer and a challenge to those who maintain that the so-called "Jewish Problem" cannot be solved.

A Simple Story

In simple terms it sets forth the story of a Jewish family who have left the penury and persecution of a nationalistic country to seek refuge and a new way of life in the land of socialism.

"A Greater Promise" shows the Jews as a worker, a man of his own destiny, free to work in the profession or vocation of his choosing without discrimination or intimidation, in a nation of his own making.

V. L. Zuskin, star of the Jewish State Theater, and N. M. Blumenthal - Tamarina of the Moscow Art Theater will be seen in the starring roles. The Russian dialogue is fully translated by English titles. The musical setting was composed and arranged by I. Dunaievsky and the production directed by I. Shapiro and V. Korsh-Sablin.

Continues Cycle

The picture is considered by many to be one of a cycle in which the Soviet movie industry draws on the rich source of material available in the problems, customs and culture of the various nationalities in the U.S.S.R. "Gypsies" was another outstanding film in this cycle.

On the same bill the Soviet short film "Youth" will be shown.

...tion Pictures

News Film Shows Destruction by Spanish Fascists

SPAIN IN REVOLT: A photographic report of the Spanish insurrection and fascist revolt.

Recently shown in one of the big movie houses in San Francisco and soon to be released again. "Spain in Revolt" is a picture that everyone should see. The producers claim that most of the shots taken are never included in regular newsreel showings.

We can believe that. The Fascist destruction and pillage is too obvious and clear, in "Spain In Revolt." The burning of Irun, the bombardment of Madrid by planes sent from Nazi Germany, and the horrible crimes of the Fascists, under the murderer Franco.

Good Scenes

Many excellent shots are shown of the loyalist troops gathering in defense of their cities, the majority of them with arms up, fists upraised, and determined to defend to the last their People's Front against the fascist invaders. Their clothes are tattered and their arms old-fashioned, but they are a more inspiring sight than the well-groomed mercenary troops commanded by the enemy.

Young girls and boys are shown in the trenches, in the hospitals, in the cities, bearing arms for democracy. It is estimated that less than ten percent of native Spaniards are to be found in the rebel armies. Thus do the workers of Spain show their courage and spirit.

Pope Misleads

It is unfortunate that the producers had to include a final shot of the Pope with the inference that his Holliness was imploring the world to be at peace. His recent utterances against the Communist Party, and the role that high church officials have played against the workers in Spain are damaging to the struggle for peace. — C. L.

N.Y. Conference to Aid Foreign Born

NEW YORK.—The American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born has issued a call for a delegate conference to (1) combat discrimination on ground of race, nationality or non-citizenship; 2) prevent destruction of families by deportation; 3) amend naturalization laws by reducing fees, moderating educational requirements and abolishing discrimination on ground of race, political opinion and pacifist convictions; and 4) re-establish the right of asylum for political and religious refugees in the U.S.

It will be held at Hotel Pennsylvania, N. Y. City, Jan. 10th.

Cloaked in Holy Talk, But It's Fascism



A GROUP OF young student followers of Dr. Buchman of Oxford University arrive in New York. "Buchmanism," a mystic sort of buncombe, has trapped many students in European countries and America onto the road to Fascism. Buchman himself has high words of praise for Hitler.

A Million Copies for the United States

60,000 Californians Will Read Pamphlet

SPEAKING of distributing working class literature today is to speak of something very much different from the same subject four, three, even one year ago.

There was a time when an important document, dealing clearly with a subject vitally affecting millions of workers and others, had to be decked out in a fairly fancy cover. Two years ago, Stalin's report to a Soviet congress reached thousands of American workers, but those thousands had to pay 10 cents each to defray the cost of printing.

But Stalin's report to a recent congress on the new Soviet constitution is going to reach not merely several or a hundred thousand, but a million American people.

2 Cents Per Copy

Sixty thousand in California will read it in its pamphlet form, just off the presses of International Publishers.

Confident that at least a million in America will not only want to buy the pamphlet, but can be reached by volunteer salesmen for it, International Publishers has set the price of 2 cents.

Sixty thousand are going to be sold in California.

Probably the bundles will arrive in California cities about the time. this appears in the Western Worker. But every unit and branch of the Communist Party is preparing to order its quota, canvass its neighborhood, cover its neighborhood meetings and sell this pamphlet which tells what thousands are anxious to hear told: **what the new constitution means to the peoples of the Soviet Union and the world through introducing a higher form of democracy than has ever existed in the world before.**

Personal responsibility for the sale of the 60,000 copies in California has been assumed by Bill Schneiderman, state secretary of the Communist Party. But Schneiderman pointed out that they can be distributed in such a large quantity only because every member and every sympathizer of the Party and of the Soviet Union makes it his personal responsibility to take copies of the pamphlet and reach all his friends and contacts with them.

20,000 for S. F.

Twenty thousand copies out of the state's total will be distributed by San Francisco County, according to Frank Spector, county organizer.

Thirty thousand will be distributed through the literature department of Los Angeles County committee.

What is the quota for your unit or branch or organization?

More important, what is **your** quota? How many workers and friends of democracy and civil liberty will you bring to a closer understanding of the history-making significance of the new Soviet constitution?

Ingvoldstad Plans Lecture Series In Cal. Cities

Dr. Fred W. Ingvoldstad, whose whose lectures on the Soviet Union a little more than a year ago attracted enthusiastic crowds in numerous Clifornia cities and communities, will again reach the Pacific Coast on January 15 ready to begin a new series of talks.

For the past three months Dr. Ingvoldstad has been lecturing in the East and Middle West following his return from a European tour during which he again visited the Soviet Union.

He is being booked for lectures by the Community Forum Speakers' Bureau, which can be addressed at the Post Office, University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

Subjects on which he is ready to speak include the new Soviet Constitution, Spain, Birobijan, war danger in Europe, morality in the Soviet Union, Sweden as the "middle way," Fascism in America, the British Empire after Edward VIII, social psychology of Nazi Germany, and Japanese diplomacy.

HEARST STILL SLIPPING

November advertising returns show the Hearst papers among the heavy losers compared to a year ago, even though most other papers gained.

Voices of LABOR

Tucson, Arizona.

This subscriber gets his copy around

EDITOR: I am a reader of your valuable paper. I am afraid I can't continue this next year, as things are not any too good financially, but I will send in for it as soon as I am able.

I have been giving my paper to people I thought would pass it on, but didn't know it was doing any good until the other day. I met one of them who told me that at least six were reading it, and that they were cutting out some of the best articles and sending them back East and that they were re-published in another paper. That makes me feel better.

I have been a union man almost all my life. I sat down on the lumber pile for the nine-hour day, at a time when I was a carpenter's apprentice, in the time of Debs. I was living in Ft. Worth at that time. The "Appeal to Reason" was our leading paper. Many of the members tried to get the union to participate in politics, but then the majority fought it. I have always been in favor of it. Elect men of your choice, and the workers' struggle is that much nearer won.

I will be sixty-nine years old in March. I have watched every angle of labor. I see the great need of getting rid of people like William Green and getting more like Lewis and Bridges.

I send greetings to Tom Mooney and all other political prisoners, hoping that they will be released in 1937.

With great respect to you and your paper. — W. S. R.

Ed. Note: This subscription will be continued; let W. S. R. pay as soon as he is able.

Y.C.L. Dance Jan. 22 In San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO. — The Young Communist League will initiate the 1937 series of monthly dances with a "barn dance" to be held at Dovre Hall, 18th St. near Valencia St. in San Francisco, January 22.

Small and Middle Farmers Squeezed by Big Growers Who Attacks Labor Unions

By TOM PATTERSON and JAMES R. STEELE

This is the first of three articles on what is happening to California agriculture.

The present article shows how the small and middle farmer is losing ground to the large, industrialized exploiters of migratory labor, and how subsistence farming is on the increase.

Later articles will deal with the growth of farm tenancy, the plight of farm produce, the relation of California agriculture with the general agricultural crisis in the nation, and the question of a solution of the immediate problems of the small and middle farmers.

AGRICULTURE in California has always been more of a highly trustified big business than in any other state.

During the depression years it has become more so.

It has always been customary for the word agriculture to call to mind the small or middle farmer, following his own plow, owning his own land, perhaps struggling to pay the mortgage.

There is another and dominating factor in California, and its position of dominance is increasing. It is the large industrialized farm, the huge exploiter of migratory labor. "Farmers" owning 1000 acres or more number only four per cent of the total number in California, but together these four per cent own more than 60 per cent of all California's farm land.

The Chamber of Commerce Would Speed the Process

Small wonder it is, in view of this great and increasing tendency toward large scale operations squeezing out the middle farmer and increasing the scourge of farm tenancy, that the California State Chamber of Commerce board of directors recently announced in a bulletin that was not intended to be published "If the present public sentiment continues, the results are evident, and we would point out that if agriculture goes down in this fight, all employer groups will go down with us. We believe that a fight should be started now in the interest of all employers, but that it should be made on an agricultural front."

The purpose announced in this bulletin is a legislative campaign to retain the Criminal Syndicalism Law, to forestall investigation of use of the state motor patrol and of gas in industrial disputes, to forestall organization of agricultural workers, to oppose even a mediation board in agricultural strikes which they prefer to smash directly without submitting to anyone's investigation, and to prevent any legislation on housing conditions and labor camps.

Program Would Aid Only the Upper 4%

The State Chamber of Commerce is not concerned with the process which is squeezing the middle farmers out, and reducing the small farmers to tenants, and peopling the sub-marginal lands with small subsistence farms whose operators can only hope to exist by competing on the labor market for at least part of the year.

The State Chamber of Commerce and the "Associated Farmers" are concerned only with helping the top four per cent solve their labor problem, and if they appeal to the small and middle farmers it is only on a program which further invites destruction of the latter and attempts to turn them against the forces of labor which alone could help them stop this squeezing-out process.

Let us first inspect the size of the farms in California, how ownership is divided and how it has varied in the past several years.

The 1935 Census of Agriculture, just issueed, shows an increase of 4 per cent since 1930 in the number of farms of 1000 acres or more, bringing about the condition already mentioned, where these largest four per cent of the total number, own more than 60 per cent of the California farm land.

Increase in Subsistence Farming Has Grave Meaning

On the other end of the scale, in the same period, was an increase of about 20 per cent in the farms of ten acres or under, with this group now constituting 22 per cent of all farmers. This is accounted for by the growth of subsistence farming which has become a place of refuge from city bread lines. In most cases, such farms cannot possibly support a family, and their owners have to find work from neighboring large growers or compete in the general labor market.

These subsustence-sized farms have increased 20 per cent since 1930.

Altogether, despite their numbers, they constitute less than one-half of one per cent of the total farm acreage of the state, as compared to the 60 per cent of the acreage owned by the upper four per cent.

Thirty-nine per cent of California farms were under 20 acres in 1935. Sixty-five per cent were under 50 acres, 78 per cent were 100 acres or less and 86 per cent were 175 acres or less. From this point the sizes of farms jumps rapidly, the average size for all farms being higher (202 acres) than any farm held by the lower 86 per cent.

Large Grow Larger and Small Grow Smaller

More telling are the changes that occur in the five years from 1930 through 1935. The total farm acreage increased negligibly, but the number of farms increased 11 per cent, bringing the average size down from 224 to 202 acres. This would seem at first glance to indicate a better distribution, but the opposite is true.

Almost all of the 11 per cent increase came in the very small farms, and not at the expense of the large farms of 100 acres or more. On the contray, there was an increase in the number of large farms and an increase in the total number of acres in all groups of large farms except some of those over 1000. Even these increased numerically.

Forced to Find Wage Work Part of Year

What has hapened?

The small and middle farmer is being squeezed out, to compete in the labor market and on subsistence farms with refugees from the breadlines.

The result is that more than 30 per cent of the farmers cannot even petend to make a full livelihood on their farms. Probably the real situation is worse than this, because the census only lists those who actually secured outside work, leaving out of account those who might have needed it.

Of the number who did work, one-third worked from one to three months outside their farms. Two-thirds of them worked from three months to a full year. One-third of all the outside workers did more than 250 days of outside work during 1934.

In short, the ruthless process of concentrating agriculture in larger and larger units is taking from the majority of California farmers their right to a continued existence as such. Those who have not yet been forced to seek work on the outside, not yet gone down to subsistence farming or joined the army of migratory agricultural workers, still find the same forces operating to drive them in this direction.

Will California Farmers Cut Their Own Throats

Yet it is in the name of this vast majority of California farmers that the State Chamber of Commerce and its adjunct, the "Associated Farmers," is engaging in a campaign to further this same process. The State Chamber of Commerce and the "Associated Farmers" are using the name of the farmers of California to buttress their campaign to drive more of them into peonage.

In a later article we will show how industrialized farming, combined with vicious exploitation of labor and with greater economic and political strength, have enabled the large growers to accelerate this squeeze-out process.

It is interesting to note, however, that those who are suffering from this process are not merely newcomers who have simply tried and failed at farming. It is not through incompetence, lack of skill or experience that drives them from their livelihood.

Experience and Skill Alone Cannot Stop the Process

Only about one-eighth of all California farmers have been on their land less than a year. More than two-thirds have lived on their farms four years or more and nearly one-half have lived there 10 years or more. Even this does not give the full picture, because the census figures on length of tenancy are based on the "number of years on **this** farm as operator." A man might be classed as a new farmer, though he had owned and worked land for half a century.

Farms are growing larger for the few smaller for the many. The great majority of farmers are experienced at their work, but this does not prevent them from being squeezed out. That can be done, but it will require political and economic understanding and action.

What can be done in this respect we will consider later. In the next article we will deal with the growth of farm-tenancy and with the disposal of agricultural products as they affect California agriculture.

Anti-Semitic Attack on Defenders of Framed Negro

New Trial Asked for John Montjoy; Will Carry to High Court

COVINGTON, Ky.—Anti-semitic references and threats of prosecution against several defense witnesses were injected into the hearing in Kenton County Circuit Court on a petition for a new trial in the case of John (Pete) Montjoy, convicted almost two years ago on a charge of criminal assault. Additional evidence was the grounds presented for a new trial for the condemned Negro youth.

Referring to affidavits which defense counsel contends support charges that Montjoy was not given a fair trial, Commonwealth Attorney Ulie J. Howard said that he "would like to have the opportunity to prosecute the signers." He added: "I would do everything in my power to send them to the penitentiary."

Among the affidavits are some signed by Negroes alleging they have been denied jury service in Kenton county, in violation of their constitutional rights. Other claims were that Montjoy's court-appointed counsel made improper defense of his client, that the confession was obtained by duress, and that no medical examination of the woman involved in the case was made although ample opportunity existed.

The Montjoy Fair Trial Committee, composed of prominent persons in Cincinnati and Covington, was the target of attack. Judge Northcutt declared at the hearing that he was astounded to see university professors "and other men and women of high intelligence" coming to the defense.

SOVIET SOLVES COOKING PROBLEM

Moscow Gastronome Puts 5th Ave. in Shade

MOSCOW—Women of Soviet Russia are no longer sentenced to hard labor preparing the family dinner after a busy day in office, factory or home. They can buy virtually a whole meal ready to be popped onto the stove at Moscow's swank central gastronome on Gorky Street.

Here are several varieties of cutlets rolled in bread crumbs or egg dressing, ready to be fried; shashlik (small pieces of lamb and onion, impalled on a stick, waiting to be turned over the fire; cold roast chickens, cold roast beef, and counter after counter of canned soups and tinned fish including rare crab meat and other fish from the waters of the Arctice and the Orient.

The gastronome on Gorky St. is a store Fifth Ave. would be proud to claim. But it has no exclusive clientele of people who arrive in limousines and inspect its foods through lorgnettes. Through its imposing rooms stream men and women in working clothes, from the factory, the shop and the office. They are stuffing enormous net bags with expensive fruits, meats, cakes and wines.

The main department of the central gastronome is an enormous, richly-decorated room with carved pillars of composite material resembling marble, ceilings mebosse d in gold, and wall trimmings of glowing redwood with department names in gold letters. Behind it is a smaller room devoted to rare wines and expensive candles. To the right are the market and the fish departments, the latter with aquatic murals.

Spanish Fascists Have No Popular Base, Says Novelist

Edwin Bates Predicts Franco's Defeat, Praises Int'l Assistance

NEW YORK—"There is no such thing as a popular basis for a military dictatorship or Fascism in Spain. Even the people who voted against the Popular Front in the February elections, did not, in so doing, include support of a Fascist uprising."

In this manner, Ralph Bates, English novelist who has just come to the U. S. from war-torn Spain, where he has lived for eight years, accounted for the fact that General Franco has little Spanish support and must rely on Italian, German and Moorish troops to carry on his ruthless slaughter and destruction.

Bates is the author of "Lean Men" and "The Olive Field," novels dealing with Spanish working class life.

Bates, who will remain here for several weeks in the interest of the Spanish cause, predicted defeat of the rebel forces. If the international situation remains the same, it will take many months before Spain can be rid of foreign troops with which it is overrun, he said. However, he added, if all intervention could be ended, the government would end the war in a few months.

Bates attributed the stiffening of royalist defenses just as it appeared that Franco would enter Madrid to the arrival of international brigades. These gave the people courage and a feeling of solidarity with friends of democracy everywhere. They saw they were not alone in their struggle.

Bates will make several appearances under the auspices of the American Society for Technical Aid to Spanish Democracy, a new organization formed to aid Americans with technical experience to reach Spain so that Spanish workers may be released from the factories to go to the front. The society is headed by Waldo Frank, novelist and lecturer. Headquarters are at 31 E. 27th St., New York City.

REPORT "DUCE" IS ABANDONING AID TO FRANCO

Spanish Fascists Are Losing, So Italy Drops Bad Bet

BERLIN—Mussolini has abandoned the Spanish Fascists because of their inability to take Madrid, and has advised Hitler to do the same, it was reported here through sources believed reliable.

The Italian Fascist dictator recognized the Franco "government" when he thought the Spanish Fascists would be able, with the aid of recognition, to capture Madrid.

But with Franco going backwards in his siege of the Spanish capital, Mussolini has reportedly come to realize that he made a bad bet and to withdraw support from Franco.

Hitler called a meeting of Nazi military and other leaders to take up the situation in Spain, and the request of Franco for 60,000 more German troops to add to the 12-15,000 already fighting for the Fascists against the Spanish government.

Mexican Govt. Ousts "Diplomats" of Spain Fascists

VERA CRUZ, Mexico. — Expelled by the Mexican government for "illegal political activities on behalf of the Spanish Fascists," two "diplomats" of the Spanish Fascist "government" were put aboard the outbound German liner Orinoco for deportation to their homeland.

The ousted Fascists are Ramon Maria de Pujadas and Miguel Teus.

The steamer Motomar, flying the flag of the Spanish Popular Front government, arrived here, and reportedly will take on a cargo of war materials for use against the Spanish Fascists.

Anti-Nazi Worker Is Given Secret Death Sentence

BERLIN—Johannes Eggert, an active anti-Fascist worker, was sentenced to death by the infamous "People's Court" on August 25th last, it was learned here, on charges of "preparing high treason."

The Nazis did not publish notice of the death sentence, in order to prevent a protest movement abroad. It is not known whether or not the sentence had been carried out.

After sentenced to death, Eggert wrote his wife: "Don't worry about the death sentence. Fear of death is just as far from me now as it was during the war."

Johannes Eggert is now 38, having been active in the labor movement since youth. After service during the World War, he came to Berlin, where he fought against the rising tide of Fascism.

After Hitler took over power, Eggert continued his work, but escaped the Nazi secret police until January, 1935.

Madrid Defenders Given Help by Famed Surgeon

MADRID.—Dr. Norman Bethune, famous Montreal surgeon, has the Canadian blood transfusion service operating at full force here for the Spanish government forces.

A call for volunteer blood donors brought 2000 offers in less than a week, and donors are coming in at the rate of 50 a day now. Half of them are militiamen on leave from the front, who want to do still more for the cause of Spanish democracy.

Dr. Bethune has a complete mobile laboratory for extracting blood, preserving it sterile and rushing it to hospitals or to the front as needed.

Madrid has 57 hospitals with 10-11,000 wounded. Before Dr. Bethune arrived, only 5 hospitals had blood transfusion facilities. Now Dr. Bethune is prepared to rush blood of all four types to any point where it is needed.

Aiding Dr. Bethune is Hazen Size, nephew of the president of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada, who has left his architect's practice to drive a mobile laboratory; Henning Sorensen, a Dane; Mrs. Celia Greenspan, an American who is trained as a laboratory assistant.

French C.P. Organ Doubles Circulation

PARIS. — Circulation of "L'Humanite," organ of the French Communist Party, has doubled within the last year. At the present time, on week days, it has a circulation of 400,000 copies. The Sunday edition circulates 600,000 copies.

MEXICO LABOR HITS ASYLUM FOR TROTZKY

CTM Flays Workers' Foe in Official Statement

(Mexican Labor News)

MEXICO CITY—Defining exactly its attitude toward permission accorded Leon Trotzky, murderer and counter-revolutionary, to reside in Mexico by the Mexican government, the Confederation of Mexican Workers (C.T.M.) has issued the following statement:

"Leon Trotzky is the leader of an international political organization. As such, wherever he lives, he will be obliged to carry on the activities pertaining to his position. . .

Workers' Program Opposed

"This program (Trotzky's) is opposed to that of the C.T.M., which represents the great majority of the Mexican working class. Trotzky and his followers uphold the self-sufficiency of the working class and oppose all temporary alliance of the proletariat with the other sectors of the population and with democratic governments for the purpose of preventing the advance of Fascism and reaction.

C.T.M. for Popular Front

"The C.T.M., on the contrary, has voted at its Second National Council to create a Mexican Popular Front among representative political and peasant sectors of the country, inviting elements of the middle class, the petty bourgeoisie, and the students to adhere to this platform. This Popular Front proposes to support the progressive acts of the Cardenas government and to prevent the growth of reactionary activities, thus guaranteeing the development of the Mexican Revolution against internal and external aggression. . .

"In this hour when the entire world finds itself faced with the choice of falling victim to Fascism or maintaining the progressive aspects of bourgeois democracy; when the working class must, above all, prevent a retrocession in the political forms of capitalist society by means of cooperation of all sectors menaced by Fascism—everything which tends to weaken the Popular Front against the conservative forces is suicidal. . .

Trotzky Undesirable

"Consequently, if Trotzky's presence in Mexico operates to intensify the activities of his group of followers who preach immediate armed insurrection and the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat in complete defiance of the characteristics of this historic period; that is to say, if Trotzky's presence tends to create differences within the working class and obstacles in the path of a united front of the people. . . then the C.T.M. will consider his presence here as undesirable.

"In the light of the foregoing, we declare that the C.T.M., as always, will defend its integrity and the fulfillment of its revolutionary program, hoping that if, unhappily, Trotzky's presence should result in consequences harmful to the organization of the working class and to the government, either for the reasons already adduced or because the reaction will attempt (as it is already doing) to make use of his presence to foment divisions within the ranks of the workers, the government itself will take whatever measures are necessary to prevent such development."

A Glance at Films

RAINBOW ON THE RIVER: Wags call this new Bobby Breen song-and-dance number Cinderella with Pants. Too, too sweet; and words fail us.

STOWAWAY: Better than the usual Shirley Temple picture. Much lack of rhyme and reason.

NIGHT WAITRESS: If you paid your money to see the other picture on the bill, you won't be disappointed in this. Otherwise, there's no guarantee.

WHITE LEGION: Picturization of fight to exterminate yellow fever in building the Panama Canal. Subject warrants better treatment than it gets.

LADY FROM NOWHERE: Meager idea about a manicurist (Mary Astor), wanted as the only witness to a gangster murder, hides away and fools everybody.

SEEK BIGGER NAVY---SOVIET NEWS BRIEFS

Cheer Lenin's Widow; Vacations With Full Pay

MOSCOW—A meeting of 3000 workers of the Trekhgornia Textile Mills here voted unanimously to appeal to all workers of the Soviet Union to collect money with which to build 10 new powerful cruisers for the Soviet navy.

The textile workers propose the workers of all factories contribute a half day's pay.

The demand for new warships has swept the country since the piratical sinking of the Soviet Steamship Komsomal by the Spanish Fascists.

The press daily reports hundreds of similar meetings. One thought runs through all the meetings. Many foreign powers have sent warships to the Mediterranean to protect their interests; we must also send a squadron of warships for protection of Soviet vessels.

Workers of the Baltic shipbuilding plant propose to collect funds to build new Soviet steel commercial ships also.

Red Army Wives Cheer Lenin's Widow

MOSCOW—Final session of the conference of wives of Red Army commanders shook the vast hall in the Kremlin with resounding cheers and applause accorded the inspiring speeches of Lenin's widow, Nadezhda Krupskaya, and People's Commisar of Defense Klementy E. Voroshilov.

Krupskaya declared the present session will have tremendous importance in drawing still greater numbers of Soviet women into "social work"—voluntary activity of women to aid cultural and health enterprises on their own time, taking on burdens which would otherwise rest on the State and on Communist Party and trade union

Joseph Stalin, V. M. Molotov, K. E. Voroshilov, L. D. Kaganovitch, M. I. Kalinin and G. K. Orjonikidze, representing the Communist Party and the Soviet government, appeared on the platform at the final session.

New Constitution Guarantees Vacations

ROSTOV-ON-THE-DON — An American worker, who was holding down a job in Selmash, the biggest agricultural machinery plant in the Soviet Union, told about his month's vacation with full pay down in the Crimea.

"Did you have frequent vacations back home?" he was asked.

"Yes, when I got laid off . . ."

The right to a vacation with pay is one of the most talked of and appreciated features of the new Constitution.

In 1906 more than 40 per cent of vacationists in the Caucausus were noblemen, big land owners and merchants; 24 per cent were of the middle classes; 10 per cent, officers in the Czar's army; 11 per cent, civil servants; 10 per cent, scientists, doctors and teachers; 1.2 per cent clergy; 0.2 per cent rank-and-file soldiers.

Today, at these same resorts, you will find only workers, collective farmers, Red Army men, professional people and students. There are no "noblemen," no landlords, no bankers, no bosses.

Even when the young Soviet Republic was defending itself from its enemies on numerous fronts, it was decreed that former resorts and homes of great land owners and capitalists, palaces of former Czars and Grand Dukes, "must be turned into sanatoria and rest homes for workers and peasants."

FIGHT DEPORTATIONS

WASHINGTON — 2900 aliens facing deportation are looking to the coming Congress to set aside the deportation order pending against them.

Celebrate Lenin Memorial Day Jan. 21



SOVIET POWER plus electrification equals Socialism, said Lenin, outstanding leader of the Russian revolution. Photo shows a new feat of Soviet electrification in Central Asia. Watch for special Lenin memorial issue of WESTERN WORKER, about January 21.

Murdered Soviet Crew Chiefly Young Men

MOSCOW. — Burning of the Soviet Diesel-motorship Komsomol was probably caused by a shell from a Fascist cruiser which penetrated to the center of the ship and set fire to the fuel oil tanks, maritime experts here said.

The Komsomol was one of the best ships in the Soviet merchant Black Sea fleet. It was constructed in 1932 at Leningrad. Its capacity was 6475 tons, length 397 feet and beam 52 feet six inches.

The Komsomol carried a crew of 36, majority of whom were young. They were known as a crew of Young Communist League members.

Awarded Honors

Twenty-three of them had shown such marked ability that they had been awarded honors, and had the right to wear special decorations conferred upon them, such as the Order of the Red Banner.

Capt. Mentzev was only 30 years old, but was considered one of the most capable officers of the Black Sea fleet. He had been going to sea since his early youth, had passed through all branches of the service, and had been awarded for merit the Order of Lenin, highest honor at disposal of the Soviet government.

Whatever the exact details of the atrocious crime committed by Spanish Fascists against the Komsomol, every one in Odessa, home port of the ship, is firmly convinced that the courageous Soviet crew conducted themselves heroically.

U.S. Italians Plan to Join Garibaldi Column in Spain

NEW YORK CITY.—Planning to send 300 men to join the Garibaldi Column of Italian anti-Fascists now fighting against the Spanish Fascists, the Italian Anti-Fascist Committee held a mass meeting here recently.

Girolamo Valenti, editor of the Italian labor daily, La Stampa Libera, said such meetings had been going on since November 21st and that one man, Capt. Robert Umbert Galliani, had already been sent to Madrid. Several hundred men have already volunteered, he stated.

Speakers were Valenti, Pedro Allegra, treasurer of the committee; Gaspare Nicotri, former member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies; Fort Velona, writer, and Mario Carrara, secretary of the Italian anti-Fascist section of the Republican Party.

Fascists' Sinking Of Soviet Ship a Wanton Crime

QUESTION: What right have the Spanish rebel warships to stop or sink Soviet ships under international law?

Answer: The sinking of the Komsomol was a violation of all maritime international law, a violation of the ancient common law of nations and customs of civilized countries, a violation of the treaties and conventions of the 1899 and 1907 Hague Peace Conferences, and of all the League of Nations peace conference agreements on the subject.

Fascists Are Criminals

The belligerency of Franco's "government" is not recognized by any country but Italy and Germany. For all other countries, then, under international law, the Fascist forces are mere criminals, persons engaged in violating the laws of their own country.

Armed ships which they send to sea are legally nothing but pirates, which it is the right of every country to sink on sight. It is illegal to trade with Franco's forces, and of course illegal for anyone to attempt to prevent trade with the Spanish government forces. It is an act of war.

But in addition, even if the right to have a navy were conceded to Franco, he has no right under international law to establish a blockade, or to stop, let alone sink, neutral ships. The law on blockades is that they must be effective and apply to all nations' ships. Effective blockade means the actual complete barring of the way into ports of the blockaded country of all shipping.

Absolutely Illegal

Franco has no sufficient navy to do this. His raids, not on all ships but only on Soviet ships, hundreds of miles from the coasts of Spain and on the high seas, are absolutely illegal, under international law, even if his "government" were a legal government.

Franco's declaration of a "blockade" in such circumstances is a typical, a classical example of a "paper blockade," specifically outlawed by the Hague conventions.

Wanton Aggression

But still more: Even if a navy is legal, even if there is a legal blockade, international law requires that the crew and passenged of unarmed merchant ships, or even of defeated warships, shall be unharmed. If they belong to an enemy ship, they may be held prisoners of war. If they belong to a neutral blockade runner, they cannot even be held prisoner beyond a reasonable time sufficient to take over the ship.

All this applies to ships destined for Spanish government ports.

But the Komsomol was not even going to Spain! The attack on the Komsomol is therefore in the same category as would be the sinking of a San Francisco Bay ferry by one of Franco's ships. It is an absolutely illegal and wanton act of aggression against the country whose ship is sunk.

NAZIS MENACE TO DEMOCRACY

Former League of Nations Official Flays Fascist Reaction as Foe of Liberty

NEW YORK CITY—The real threat to democracy comes from the reactionary Right, and specifically from Germany, declared James G. McDonald, of the New York Times, former League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in a talk at the Central Synagogue.

"In Germany, the Nazis in their conception of the political realm do not satisfy themselves with the mere denial of democracy," he said.

"They are openly hostile to it. Freedom of press, speech and assembly are denied to all who oppose the State.

"The regime in Germany is inconsistent with any free religion. The children are being drilled and regimented to break off their old ties and loyalties and to give their loyalty to the State.

"It is important that the world see that the attacks are not merely upon the Jews but upon freedom of every sort."

Although flaying Germany as the main danger, McDonald claimed to see a "new reign of terror" in the Soviet Union, which has just adopted the most democratic Constitution in the history of the world.

FASCIST ITALY USES TERROR AGAINST JEWS

Public Floggings of Jews in Colony of Tripoli

ROME—Under orders of Marshal Italo Balbo, Jews living in Tripoli, an Italian possession, have been subjected to Fascist terror and flogging, it was learned here with arrival of the Jewish newspaper Nostra Bandiera of Turin, which prints extracts from a local Tripoli newspaper, Avvenire di Tripoli.

Balbo issued an order on November 14th that all shops were to remain open all days of the week except Sunday, admittedly aimed at Jewish shop keepers with the object of forcing them from the new quarter of the city back into the old city.

Publicly Flogged

Some Jewish shopkeepers rebelled at this discrimination, and on December 8th two Jews were publicly flogged in the market place in the presence of a large crowd. A third was sentenced to three months in prison instead of flogging, on physician's recommendation.

The Avvenire said each of the two flogged received 10 strokes of a kurbash, or whip made of plaited strips of leather.

Attempts of Fascist newspapers in Italy to stir up anti-semitism have failed thus far.

In Tripoli the Jewish population is almost as large as the Italian. In the Libyan colony 24,000 Jews live, more than half of them in the city of Tripoli iself. Italian residents in Tripoli number only 21,000.

Corrupt Military Gang Rules Cuba, Says Ex-Pres.

HAVANA, Cuba. — Further proof that Cuba is being ruled by a "corrupt military oligarchy" is seen in the impeachment and ousting of President Miguel Mariano Gomez by the Cuban Congress, declared Dr. Carlos Hevia, ex-President of Cuba and Annapolis graduate.

"Civil rights do not exist," said Dr. Hevia, who was President for three days, January 15-18, 1934. "Labor unions have been suppressed and professional organizations, such as that of doctors, have been declared illegal.

"The military oligarchy continuously needs more money to maintain itself and they have obtained it up to now by buying silver and coining new currency, this causing inflation. But as this road seems to have been closed now, they have had to appeal to new taxes.

Just a Smoke-Screen

"It is not true that the present conflict in Cuba has been precipitated because the army wants more schools. The present unsatisfactory condition of public education shows that the military oligarchy is not interested in schools.

"This has been merely a pretext to obtain more economic resources.

"As the present incident of the ousting of Gomez seems to have drawn the veil away, I fear that more oppression and persecution in Cuba are to be expected."

Cuban jails are jammed with political prisoners, many of whom have been tortured and assassinated, charged Dr. Hevia. The press has been submitted to the will of the military leaders "by force of torture and persecution of the most outstanding editors."

JAPAN TO ASK PEACE TREATY WITH AMERICA

Believes Dem. Party Leans to OK of Japan Policy

TOKYO—Saying that Foreign Minister Hachiro Arita "appreciates that the Democratic Party's Asiatic policy is markedly moderate and thinks it leans toward recognition of Japan's position as the stabilizing power in East Asia," the newspaper Nichi Nichi has announced that Arita would intimate that Japan is ready to cooperate with the United States in establishing peace machinery in the Pacific "appropriate to the new situation."

Naval Race Looms

Arita was to make his offer on expiration of the Washington and London naval limitations treaties at the end of the year, with the object, supposedly, of preventing a naval race.

Such problems as neutrality of the Philippines and fortification of Pacific islands can be discussed by the two countries under the new conditions, Japan will indicate.

Japan's idea, it is believed, is to attempt to get tacit U. S. approval of her encroachment in China.

SAN FRANCISCO

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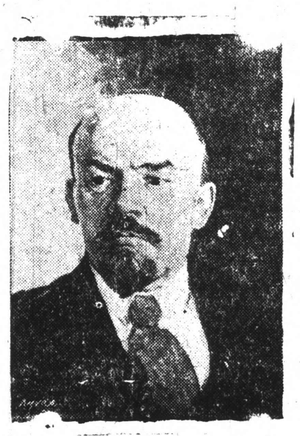
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Advertising Dept.

San Francisco

Young Communist League BARN DANCE, Jan. 22, Dovre Hall, 3543 18th St. Get tickets at Y.C.L. office. Adm. 25c.

Literary, Sunday, January 10, at 1057 Steiner St. Martin Birnbaum will read his unpublished poems. Freiheit Gezangs Ferein will sing. United Dramatical Society will produce a sketch. Millie Greenberg and Anna Rosen will recite. Program in Yiddish. Adm. 25c.

Next F. S. U. Vieteherinka Sat., Jan. 30, 1937.

January 9, 1937, Sat. Eve., Russian Play, Dance, Eats. Knights of Red Branch Hall, 1133 Mission. Benefit Western Worker. Ausp. Group of Russian Workers.

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Los Angeles

Clara Townes, recently returned from Soviet Union, will speak Friday, January 8, 8 p. m., La Vada Apts., 243 E. Vernon Ave. Benefit Western Worker. Auspices Goodyear Section C. P.

Workers forum, 230 S. Spring St., L. A. Every Sunday night, 8 p. m. Admission ten cents.

Oriental evening, honoring Rose Chernin, Dist. Organizer, I.L.D., Cultural Center, 230 S. Spring Street, Saturday, January 9, 7 p. m. Chinese food, Japanese dancers. Dancing. Admission 35c. Ausp. I.L.D.

"Red" Wedding Party to be held at the Music Center, 2425½ Brooklyn Ave., Saturday eve., January 16th.

Fur Workers' Annual Mid-Winter Dance, Sat. Eve., Jan. 9, 1937. Royal Palms Hotel Ballroom. Friendly organizations are asked to note this date.

Keep this date open: Sat. and Sun., Jan. 30, 31, 1937. Annual Bazaar of the International Labor Defense, Dist. 14, will be held at the Angelus Hall, 1954 E. First St.

LABOR AND POLITICS

By John Broman

When the Alameda County Central Labor Council came out for a discussion of independent political action and consideration of running labor candidates in the Oakland city elections, it really started the ball rolling.

Now the Painters' District Counsel of Los Angeles has issued a call for a similar conference to take place the middle of this month (See Page 8). Los Angeles has municipal elections in April and May of this year.

Previously, the International Longshoremen's Association Local 38-79, of San Francisco, had adopted a resolution for independent political action and cooperation with Labor's Non-Partisan League in building a Labor Party on a national scale.

People's Legislation . . .

Another forward step in the direction of the people's unity against pro-Fascist employers, bankers, and their tools, is the People's Legislative Conference being held in Sacramento on January 16th and 17th to mobilize support for a real legislative program for organized labor, poor farmers and the people generally.

All these developments look pretty good for a Farmer-Labor Party in California. But the fight has just begun. The steps taken already are good, but they are just the beginning, they are still just on paper.

The Alameda County conference, the Los Angeles conference, the People's Legislative Conference, have all got to strike deep roots in California, particularly in the organized labor movement. The majority of the state's local unions and central labor bodies must be convinced to go into the fight to build a Farmer-Labor Party with sleeves rolled up for action, not just with a chorus of "ayes" in adopting resolutions.

Epics Impatient . . .

The Epics are supporting the People's Legislative Convention, and they will undoubtedly move progressively closer to the Farmer-Labor Party movement.

But the progressive Epics who want a Farmer-Labor Party must realize that it cannot be a genuine Farmer-Labor Party unless it has a solid base in the labor movement.

The Epics saw the Sinclair campaign for governor in 1934 grow up like a mushroom, and think a Farmer-Labor Party could do the same. But they should also see that the Epic movement was built too much from the top, without a firm and solid base, and therefore has taken a slump since the 1934 campaign.

The Farmer-Labor Party, if it is to accomplish what the people want it to accomplish, must have such a broad and firm base that it can stand the hardest attacks by the enemies of the people without being rocked over.

And that broad and firm base can only be secured in the trade unions of California and the nation, the basic fighting organizations of the working people for the bettering of their living standards and working conditions. With such a strong base, plenty of allies can be found for the Farmer-Labor Party among the small farmers and the middle-class people, and their organizations.

Epic Objectives . . .

Writing in the Epic News of December 28th, Frederick Conliffe, chairman of the Executive Committee of the End Poverty League, outlines definite objectives for the Epics in 1937:

Establishment of a federation in Western States to work for a few main Epic objectives to which all groups participating can agree; drive for pensions for the aged; to continue to attempt to elect officials who believe in the Epic program.

There can be no objections to these objectives, provided the federation is not a substitute for a Labor Party, but supports and furthers independent political action, but there are many more things to fight for which the majority of the Epics believe in, such as guaranteeing unions the right to organize, strike and picket; against vigilantism; against the sales tax, and for taxing those who can afford to pay, the rich; for adequate relief for the unemployed, etc.

Some Epics still seem to have the idea that unions and other organizations must be won to the Epic program, instead of the Epics working with these organizations to work out a common program. Conliffe wrote: "We must unite with all who will come to our program . . ."

Why not the unions, the small farmers' organizations, the Epics, the Communists, the Socialists, and other people's organizations working out a common program—which must inevitably lead toward a People's Front in a Farmer-Labor Party—which will get the maximum and broadest support and will mean concrete victory for labor and all people against the pro-Fascists, the employers, the bankers?

The time is long past to stick to the sectarian position of saying: "I'll let you support my program."

It's time to say: "Let's find out what program all of us can agree on, and then fight like hell for that program!"

BOSSES' BLUFF CALLED AFTER 2 FINK TRICKS

Alaska Men Planned Strike to Back Up Delegates

By An Alaska Canner

(Continued from previous issues)

BRISTOL BAY, Alaska—We knew that the delegate's resigning voluntarily on account of riding by the bosses, was out of the question, that he was only bluffing, and further that a team of horses could not tear him from the job.

It made me blush when I thought how he had put it over on us. He had unbalanced the bunch of us. As for me, you could have knocked me down with a pile driver. When I went to bed, the men were still arguing.

Formen Pull Trick

At breakfast time, the foreman in question called for attention and spoke to the men. In effect, he said that after the meeting, all the bosses met in his quarters and had agreed that the men were to choose if they wanted the delegates to run the factory, or if they wanted the foremen to run it. He said they were to choose here and now, that if they chose the delegates, all the foremen would resign in a group; that if they chose the foremen, the delegates would have to resign.

It was putting the men in an unfair and embarrassing position. Regardless of how they felt about the bosses, they thought that if they were to quit as a group, it would temporarily cripple the efficiency of the canning operation.

After trying so hard to gain the confidence and respect of the fishermen, they had no other alternative than to accept the bosses. This was the second defeat of the rank-and-file at the hands of these bosses, in the space of 24 hours. We were beginning to slip.

They were both bold strokes and they hit their mark for a bull's eye. About 10 o'clock one boss came into the kitchen looking for two of the delegates. He stated that they had left their jobs, and that he could not find them. It developed that they had gone to see the president of our union, at the Red Salmon Canning Company plant.

The reason they left was because the foremen had threatened to call the marshal and have them arrested. When we found what the foremen were intending to do, we passed the word to the men that if the delegates were arrested for carrying out the functions of union men, that we would strike the plant, regardless of what came of it, until they released the men.

We thought that if they intended to arrest our official union representatives, that we would be justified in taking job action.

The foremen were just bluffing, we found out later. We were not.

(To Be Continued)

Bridges—He's No Pie Card Artist

(San Pedro Srike Bulletin)

The last few hours has produced a flood of hysterical local newspaper headlines about Harry Bridges holding up settlement of the strike all by himself. Reading these papers, one would think that all Bridges has to do is to raise his finger, and presto, everything stops. These news stories are written deliberately in an effort to breed discord and discontent within the unions. It is therefore refreshing to receive a large clipping from the New York Post of December 15, which displays six portrait photos of Bridges under the captain "Call Him Anything, But Not a Pie Card Artist." Immediately beneath, it says, "Harry Bridges wears no diamonds; even the racketeers he's ruined admit he's honest . . . but they hate him for it." We lack space to reprint the entire long article, but here are a couple of excerpts:

"Today he's the cause of a lot of headaches for a great variety of people. Among those watching his every step and listening to every word are Joe Ryan, president of the ILA, the strike-breaking officials of the ISU, and the memberships of these unions, and the shipowners.

Crashed Before They Could Murder Women and Children



PHOTO shows what happened after a Nazi plane en route to Spain, to bomb women and children of Madrid, crashed atop a snow-covered mountain in the Alps. Six persons in the plane met death. A rescue crew found Nazi leaflets in the wreckage of the plane.

2000 CANNERY WORKERS NEED ORGANIZING

By a Worker Correspondent

MONTEREY—Many tales and beautiful stories have been printed in the "kept press" abaut the pretty sardines caught in Monterey, but never about the men and women who work in bringing the fish to the dock and then putting them in cans.

The workers here receive from 35 cents to 50 cents per hour. This is used by the bosses to keep the workers from organizing. Piece work ranges from 10 cents to 13 cents per bucket of fish.

Wages Average $9 per Week

About 10 canneries operate here, and whenever the fishermen come in, a boss will call the crew, no matter what time of the day or night it is. After three hours work in fish and wet to the skin, the worker is told to go home until tomorrow.

The average salary this year has been around $9 per week, and most of the workers are in debt, which they will never be able to pay.

Over three months ago a charter was received to organize these workers into the Cannery Workers Union, but due to the stpied activities of one A. B. Reser, organizer from San Pedro, no organizational steps were taken.

Serious Organizing

Finally, when the season was about over, the workers hurled Reser out on charges and proceeded to get down to the serious work of organizing the 2000 workers employed in the industry.

Today, near the close of the season, around 300 are organized, and unless some unlooked for situation arises, nothing will be done to raise the living and working conditions this season.

These mistakes made by the Cannery Workers Union must be utilized to build a strong organization next season.

Unions Must Cooperate

First, 100 per cent cooperation must be maintained between the Deep Sea and Purse Seine Fishermen's Union of Monterey, and the Cannery Union.

Unless this is done, the bosses will continue to play one against the other, and then it is a simple task to pay starvation wages and make a worker crawl in order to get a job.

The fishermen are forced to pay $500 in order to get on a purse seiner, which means a large boat capable of traveling far out to sea where the fish can be caught. The name purse seiner is because the net, when put out, is closed in the same manner as a purse by sliding rope through the net, thus locking off all chances of escape.

Education Needed

Next, the Fishermen's Union should hold meetings more often to educate the workers against the great harm of belonging to a company union, such as exists here in Monterey.

The company union here is called the Fishermen's Protective Association. It is endorsed 100 per cent by the three large boat owners, bankers and their tools. This Association is the hiring hall for many Italian fishermen, and rules with an iron hand. No workers can earn a cent fishing if he is not willing to abide by their dicisions.

Smash the Company Union

Unity between the Cannery and Fishermen's Unions, plus a broad organizational campaign to organize both groups 100 per cent, which will smash the company union and wipe out the custom of paying $500 for a job, is the answer to these slave conditions existing in Monterey.

Let the "kept press," in describing the beautiful scenery and romantic work in the sardine industry, look behind the fog at the workers who make this million-dollar industry what it is today.

FIGHTS FOR SPAIN

MADRID—Stephen Daduk, 24, young American fighting in the anti-Fascist army, is in the hospital here with a shrapnel wound in the leg, received in the recent severe fighting in University City.

Maritime Strikers Played 'Santa' to Salinas Kids

By a Vegetable Worker

SAN FRANCISCO — If you would publish my letter in your paper, I'd appreciate it very much as I would like to take this opportunity to thank all striking maritime unions for their kindness and thoughtfulness in sending toys, candy, nuts and oranges to the kiddies of members of the Fruit and Vegetable Workers Union in Salinas.

I was very fortunate in having the opportunity of taking the gifts to Salinas and helping distribute them. My husband and I arrived in Salinas at 11 p.m. in a drenching rainstorm the day after Christmas.

There were two girls and one boy in the family at the place we were going to stay over night. As soon as we told them the purpose of our visit and that the striking maritime unions had sent presents for every little girl and boy whose fathers and mothers had been in the recent strike, they immediately got out of bed. The boy went next door to tell his two little chums about it and before we were there 15 minutes, there were about 10 children in the house.

One father, who has two little children, one six months and the other three years, who is working on WPA and couldn't buy the smallest toy for either child, came over to the house in a deluge of rain to show his kiddies that there was a Santa Claus after all.

There was a doll for each girl, a gun for each boy and a real nice blackboard for each of the elder children. The children all remained up until four o'clock in the morning playing with their new toys.

It would have been worth $100 of anybody's money just to see the bright eyes and the smiles on the faces of those little children, when they found out Santa hadn't left them out in the cold.

I also wish to thank the maritime unions personally and in behalf of the rank-and-file members of the F. and V.W. Union for the wonderful support they gave us during our recent strike.

There were different members from the ILA and other unions in Frisco who came to Salinas and gave us a few talks, which were appreciated very much. They also helped put a lost spirit back into the strike.

Thanking you very much, I hope that some day before long you will have a Western Worker which is published daily instead of twice a week, as it seems like days will never roll around quick enough for the next edition of the Western Worker.

What Prize Meant To One Worker Correspondent

"Very happy to receive letter announcing award of prize. It means more to me than words can tell."

That's how Mrs. B., unemployed leader of the Long Beach area, felt when she became a winner in the weekly competition for the best workers' correspondence story of the week, and was awarded a copy of the new book, "Spain in Revolt."

You can feel the same way—just sit down and write out the story about your shop, your union, your picket line, your neighborhood.

Why Not You?

There are workers' and farmers' problems and issues that you know about, so write 'em up and send 'em to Workers' Correspondence Editor, 121 Haight Street, San Francisco.

The next winner will be announced in the next issue. Prize for the following week is "Fascism and Social Revolution," by R. Palme-Dutt. And the next prize will be "The Coming Struggle for Power," by John Strachey.

Write your story, and order a bundle of the issue it will appear in, at 2½ cents per copy, postage prepaid to you.

SINCLAIR URGES LEGISLATIVE STRUGGLE

LOS ANGELES— Upton Sinclair has called for a legislative struggle by the people. Writing in the Epic News of December 28th on "Who Won the Elections?" he declared:

"Mr. Lorimer (of the Saturday Evening Post) is now fully convinced, that he and his kind are going to take charge of the government of America, and that President Roosevelt is going to follow the principles of the economic rayalists from now on. It may be true; I cannot say.

"All that I can do is to note the signs of the times as they are reported in our daily papers. I note that two members of the Roosevelt family have taken jobs on Hearst newspapers, and that the Duponts are marrying into the family. I note that before he sailed for South America President Roosevelt ordered 150,000 of the unemployed thrown off the relief rolls to save money and I note that this has been done.

"As you know, I advised people to vote for President Roosevelt as the least of two evils.

"But I advised you also not to expect too much, and to be prepared to agitate and fight for everything you get; knowing full well the power and prestige of those economic masters who hold this country in their hands, and who are not going to give up easily their control over the country's pursestrings.

"The 'Saturday Evening Post' and all other organs of reaction want to let the unemployed starve.

"The decisions taken in Washington depend upon the reactions throughout the country. The unemployed must organize and they must demonstrate and make their voices heard. They must make it plain that they will not starve, whether in small companies or large ones.

"The twenty-eight million Americans, though they won last month's elections, must educate themselves and the rest of the country. They must organize and make their demands known.

Workers in S.F.'s Parks Need Union Organization

By a Worker Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO—Workers in the muncipal parks here need organization to protect their living standards, as you can see by our wage scales.

Some of us only get $2 a day. Over 300 of us get $5 a day, which sounds pretty good but is not as good as it sounds. We can work only five days a week, and in bad weather we can't work at all.

Our average pay is about $20 a week, which isn't enough with a family to support. Some workers lost homes when they couldn't pay the bankers on the mortgages.

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227 THIRD St., San Francisco
Buys and sells new and used Clothing. He also cleans and presses and repairs clothing. Special consideration to readers.

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San Francisco

NEW TACTICS OF CLEANERS GET RESULTS

Strike Won and 400 New Members Is Union Record

By a Worker Correspondent.

SAN FRANCISCO—The Cleaners, Dyers and Pressers Union has finally found the right trail in its campaign to organize the workers who produce the nicely cleaned and pressed suits for San Francisco.

For years the program was to stabilize the price of cleaning, and on that basis to get from the employers a few cents' raise for the workers. But time after time, that failed.

New Basis Gets Results

Now the union is interested only in the wages and working conditions of the workers, and is leaving the problem of price-fixing to the employers. And on this basis the union has in the last month gained 400 new members.

These members were gained by a strike in the largest cleaning plant in Northern California, the Alex & Thomas plant. The strike was settled after two days and the workers gained the following demands:

Recognition of the union, preferential hiring, a general raise in wages throughout the plant, and the 40-hour week.

The task of our union has only begun. The following problems are facing the union:

Task Just Started

Firstly, to complete the organizational drive and to organize every cleaning plant and shop in San Francisco; also, to build shop committees in every shop, which will be the best protection for the gains that the workers have gotten.

The employers are already setting up a howl that they cannot meet the payroll. In fact, they have raised their prices sky high and in this way cut down the volume of work, and are laying off workers. Then they spread the propaganda that the union is responsible for the layoffs.

Need Educational Campaign

This tactic of the bosses is to turn the workers against the union. To overcome this, the union will have to carry on a campaign to educate these new recruits who have never belonged to a union before.

This can be done only by building strong shop committees in every shop.

Curran Endorses The CIO's Aims

WASHINGTON.—Joseph Curran, chairman of the strike committee of the International Seamen's Union, gave his personal endorsement here to the Committee for Industrial Organization.

Although Curran said he could not speak for the members of his union on support of the C.I.O. he remarked that the C.I.O. unions had contributed funds and assessed their members in support of the striking Atlantic Coast seamen.

"I am personally sympathetic with the C.I.O.," Curran said. "I give it my whole-hearted endorsement, but I am in no position to voice the sentiments of the entire body of seamen."

Curran said that the East Coast strike would be settled in ten days, provided longshoremen in all ports supported the strike.

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Sonoma Vigilantes Attempt to Put On "Legal" Face

By a Worker Correspondent

SANTA ROSA—Big landowners have organized into the vigilante group of the Associated Farmers of California, here in Sonoma County, to "vigorously fight against any radical attempts to organize agricultural workers during the coming year."

So strong is becoming public sentiment against vigilantism, however, that one of the heads of this group claimed the Associated Farmers is a "legally incorporated organization pledged to uphold law, and aim at educational efforts, not vigilante tactics."

What about the vigilantism conducted by these "legal" thugs in the Salinas lettuce strike, in the citrus strike in Orange County, in the celery strike at Stockton?

One R. J. McClain is acting head of the Sonoma County organization. He claims to have been a colonel in the air force during the war, in command of a flight squadron in France, and also that he was 15 years in the test and engineering department at the Packard Motor Company.

Stool Pigeon Heads Vigilantes

McClain tried to operate the Empire Motor Company, Petaluma—a business failure. He was a backyard mechanic for about a year. He ran for supervisor in 1934—a dismal flop. He worked for Westerterp Bros. garage, Petaluma, for the past two years as a part-time mechanic.

He is a deputy sheriff and a fire-and-game warden. He tried to organize the "All-American League" in 1935. Acted as a stoolpigeon in the shop, carrying tales to the bosses.

He acted as a strike-breaker in the apple strike in 1935, doing armed deputy duty at Handy's Camp, Sebastopol, Sonoma County, and served as a guard at the vigilante raid on Germania Hall and actively participated in the subsequent tar-and-feather episode on August 21st, 1935.

This is the guy who says he isn't a vigilante!

McClain is chairman of the American Legion Subversive Committee, and organizer of Vigilante Continuations Committee.

He is a member of the Petaluma Rifle Club, a vigilante "feeder" group. He is also a Republican, and wore a Landon "sunflower" during the election campaign.

Other leaders of the Associated Farmers here are D. H. Du Vander, Lawrence Meredith, Bernhard Groverman, John Watson and Gearge Kennedy.

These vigilantes haven't abandoned their illegal tactics and terrorism against labor; they're trying to put on a "legal" face.

Soviet Farm Woman Compares U.S.A. With U.S.S.R.

MOSCOW.—Smirnova, collective farm woman, who went to the U.S. with other collective farmers to purchase pedigreed cattle, reports she admired gigantic skyscrapers and splendid roads, but was impressed with the number of unemployed and conditions among Negroes.

She said: "I remember with pride the collective farmers of my own Soviet Union where all nationalities are equal and where there is no longer exploitation or unemployed."

Subscribe to the Western Worker.

FASCIST TALK BY PRIEST IS FLOP IN L. A.

Mexican, Italian and American-Born In Protest

By a Worker Correspondent

LOMITA—I am sending you an article related to me by one of our Mexican comrades. On December 29th, in Los Angeles, a group of Mexicans calling themselves the "Catholic Josephines," headed by their Catholic priests, paraded on Main Street in front of the Catholic Church.

There were about 500 in this group. They stopped in front of their Catholic Church, and there the priest stood and began to talk to his followers, saying the Catholic Church was the only organization, the biggest and best in the world.

Priest Speaks

He urged the working class to join their organization and loudly blossed the Pope, Rome and the Fascists. He stated anyone not believing in the Pope was stupid.

Meanwhile, a group of about 2000 gathered at the Plaza, including Italian, Mexican and American workers, to protest against Fascists. Some one of the anti-Fascists yelled: "Go back to your goat pens."

What About Franco?

The priest called the police and protested that he was being insulted by the mob, that he being a good Catholic was doing this for the good of the poor.

A Mexican worker arose and yelled back to the police to send the priest back to Spain to join Franco's army... He said they didn't want such manifestations.

An American worker arose and said the Mexicans had the right to protest this Fascist action, as they were in a free country and told the police to tell the priest and his followers to go into their church yard.

Pro-Fascists Disbanded

The police told the priest the city of Los Angeles did not want such manifestations and ordered the priest and his followers into the church yard.

When everything seemed apparently settled, one of the followers of the priest yelled out, **"We're going to break the strike. We have strike-breakers in El Monte and Los Angeles."**

A seaman answered him in effective language.

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L. A. Painters Council Starts Labor's Political Ball Rolling

Calls Conference Jan. 10 of Unions for City Elections

Points Out Successes by Labor Party Movements in New York and Minnesota; for "Candidates of Our Own Choosing"

LOS ANGELES—Starting organized labor's political ball a-rolling, District Council No. 36 of the Painters' Union of Los Angeles and vicinity has sent a call to all organized labor bodies for a conference by labor January 10th on the coming municipal elections.

The call follows:

To All Trade Unions:

Organized Labor has, through the coming Municipal Elections, a splendid opportunity to assert its power as an influential body in the civic affairs of our Los Angeles City Government.

For too long a time we have been denied a real voice in the affairs of our city. We have been given only the choice of voting for candidates already selected for us by parties or groups who have no interests in the problems we trade unionists face.

As a result the labor movement has had forced upon it such obnoxious legislation as the Anti-Picketing Law and such anti-labor officials as the L. A. "Red Squad." Labor has in many cases been denied the right to organize, strike and picket. The city authorities have done nothing to outlaw vigilante bands or armed gun-thugs brought in to break strikes. Are we to continue to be the "goats"?

Independent Role

Today, Labor throughout the United States, is beginning to take an independent role in political matters. Labor is beginning to understand that only by coming forward boldly, with all the strength it represents, as an independent political factor, can it succeed in winning those conditions necessary to maintain an American standard of living.

The successes achieved by the American Labor Party in New York, the Minesota Farmer-Labor Party, the Washington Commonwealth Federation and the Wisconsin Progressive Federation, are but a small indication of what organized labor can do in winning recognition for itself on the political field.

The Los Angeles Painters District Concil No. 36 is calling a conference of the trade union movement for the purpose of outlining a campaign to elect to the Los Angeles City administration, at the next election, candidates of our own choosing, upon a platform that will rally to our support not only the trade unionists, but also the hundreds of thousands of labor sympathizers in Los Angeles.

Delegates Urged

We strongly urge your organization to elect three delegates to attend this conference Sunday, January 10, 1937, at 2 o'clock p. m. at Painters' District Council Hall, 1748 Santee Street. In addition, we invite all of your membership who are interested in the forming of an independent Labor Slate for the Municipal Elections, to attend this conference. If your Union does not meet prior to the above date, we urge the officers of your Local to attend.

Fraternally yours,

District Council of Painters No. 36.

George W. Kerr, Secretary.

PAT LYDON IS CIO ORGANIZER IN CALIFORNIA

Columbia Steel to Be Tackled in Campaign

MARTINEZ—Pat Lydon, well known in Contra Costa County, has been named a field representative of the Committee for Industrial Organization on the Pacific Coast. What a local paper had to say about this speaks for itself, as far as recognizing that Lydon is the best type of labor organizer. We quote:

"Pat Lydon, storm center of Contra Costa Countly Central Labor Council, has been named first field representative in the west on the Committee of Industrial Organization and will concentrate his activities on the Steel Workers' Organization committee, he announced today.

"Organization work at Columbia Steel in Pittsburg is expected to come within the scope of Lydon, whose efforts in the past have included the chemical men, cannery and rubber workers of Pittsburg. He has called two strikes here, both of which were held illegal.

"William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, issued a statement repudiating Lydon as an organizer for the Federation.

"Upon his appointment by the C. I. O., Lydon left the employ of Associated Oil Company, but announced he would maintain his home in Martinez."

He Hates to See The Unions Grow

RICHMOND. — Jack Faulkner, well known "do-nothing" organizer of the Contra Costa Trades and Labor Council, showed himself in his true colors at a meeting of the employees of the Certainteed Plant, which makes shingles, etc., which was recently held here.

Faulkner came out and said the plant was not ready to be organized, that organization would have to be put off for two or three years.

He was seconded by Martin Haig, ex-head of the Building Trades here in Contra Costa County, who said he would rather see the workers organized into a company union than in a federal local of the A.F.L.

Faulkner tried to stop Humphries, of the Miscellaneous Workers Union of Oakland, a federal local, from having the meeting in Brotherhood Hall here, but had to give up when Humphries said the meeting would then be held in Oakland. Faulkner had to content himself with red-baiting against Humphries, and otherwise disrupting. During the meeting, he was seen prompting a company union stoolie what to say.

CORRECTION

LOS ANGELES — Correction: A news item in the Western Worker issue of December 21 states that William Velarde, former general secretary of the C.U.C.O.M (Mexican Agricultural Workers' Union), who was recently remanded to the county jail in Santa Ana by labor-hating Judge Allen after refusing an appeal ,was defended by the International Labor Defense.

This is incorrect, the I.L.D. did not defend Velarde. None of the more than 100 workers arrested during the citrus strike, at which time Velarde was jailed, ever received sentences.

SCORE ONE IN FIGHT AGAINST PICKET LAW

Stockton Agriculture Union Triumphs Over Vicious Law

STOCKTON—The Agricultural Workers' Union Local No. 20221 of Stockton has won an important victory in court by defeating the anti-picket ordinance which the Celery Growers-Shippers Association used against workers when they demand higher wages and better conditions in San Joaquin County.

Three of those who were arrested during the recent two weeks celery strike at Terminous were found not guilty on Dec. 23, by a jury of small farmers and workers, comprised of five women and seven men in Judge E. H. Barber's curt room at Thornton.

The three Filipino brothers who were acquitted are P. Verosas, I. Santiago and L. Ramires.

This victory forced Judge Barber to come to Stockton and release nine more arrested pickets from the county jail house.

"This should prove to all workers that discrimination between white and other workers is being broken down daily by organized labor," states the union.

The slave-driving growers-shippers association are losing their power over the small farmers and working people in San Joaquin County.

Reactionaries In San Diego Pull Expulsion Act

SAN DIEGO—Dan Taylor, delegate from the Retail Clerks union, was expelled from the Federated Trades on charges of being a Communist, the San Diego "Trade Union News" reports.

As the meeting opened Ed Dowell announced that the Council's Investigating Committee had discovered that Taylor was a Communist, and recommended his expulsion.

In reply to a direct question. Taylor declared he was not a member of the Communist Party although he was registered as a Communist for voting purposes. He stated that in his opinion delegates could only be expelled if actions detrimental to the labor movement were proven against them, and his record he declared was one of complete devotion to the labor movement.

A Legal Party

In answer to a delegate's statement that the Communist Party is a legal party that anyone has a right to join, Pres. Stutz read a part of the AFL constitution which forbade the seating of delegates who were members of the Communist Party.

A motion was offered to refer the question back to the Clerk's union, but Pres. Stutz insisted on an immediate vote. When a motion was made to abide by the constitution of the AFL and the investigating committee's report, the following delegates answered yes to the roll call vote: Dowell, Gue, Wade, Gorey, Stutz, Chames, Chavez, Barnes, Scott, Schwartz, Palmer, Krum, A. G. Rogers, Donnelly and a Building Employee delegate. Six delegates refused to vote.

Following the vote, Taylor was ordered out of the hall.

This action has conclusively demonstrated why the present Federated Trades is shunned by a majority of local unions.

No attempt was made to show that Taylor has harmed the labor movement, for any such attempt would have provent the opposite —that Taylor set an example for other trade unions. He has many times won commendation for his good work in picketing Safeway stores. In fact the Labor Leader has commented on his good work in the Safeway strike.

Smarter reactionaries than those in control of the Federated Trades, have learned to ignore that part of the AFL constitution which declares that Communists may not be seated as delegates.

In the recent Sacramento convention of the California Federation of Labor, Sam Jaye, delegate from a San Francisco culinary union and a Communist candidate for State Assembly, was accepted without protest.

So far as this paper knows, in spite of all the attacks of Communists, no evidence has ever been submitted to show that they work against the best interests of the labor movement in any way. In fact if we are to believe the reactionaries, our best rade union leaders are Communist, including John L. Lewis, Harry Bridges and scores of others.

Seeking to divert attention away from their own inactivity and failure to acomplish anything for the Labor movement the reactionary officials of the Federated Trades brought out the familiar red herring and expelled Brother Taylor. And by this act they hope to frighten other progressives into supporting them. This is the significance of their latest witch hunting stunt.

Bosses Unbend in Shipyard Strike

CHESTER, Pa.—The Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America won a firm foothold in the Sun shipbuilding yards at Chester in the settlement which ended a strike of over two weeks affecting 3,000 men. One striker was killed by thugs.

The walkout terminated when the management addressed a letter to the strike committee, promising to negotiate demands with the committee and Pres. John Green of the union between January 1 and 15. Rehiring of strikers without discrimination and equal division of work in times of seasonal layoffs were pledged. Strikers demanded a 20% wage increase, 36-hour week with time-and-a-half for overtime and double time on Sundays and holidays and mechanics' pay for mechanics' work.

Rail Labor Unions Seek 6-hour Day

Women's Trade Union League Drafts A New Bill of Rights

WASHINGTON.— Formulation of a "charter of women's rights" and development of an organization to push for the adoption of the charter through law and administrative practice has been announced here by Elizabeth Christman, secretary of the National Women's Trade Union League.

The charter is intended to become the basis for common action by women throughout the world, Miss Christmas said, and women's organizations are expected to work together for the necessary legislation to give effect to it in their own nations.

Sponsoring the new declaration of women's rights is the Joint Conference Group of Women in the United States for a Women's Charter. Included in the group are Mary Anderson, director of the U.S. Dept. of Women's Bureau, Mary Beard, historian and wife of Chas. A. Beard, Mary Van Kleeck, Rose Schneiderman, Women's Trade Union League, Charl O. Williams, federation of business and professional women's clubs, and 21 others.

The woman's charter, as proposed by the conference group, reads, "Women shall have full political and civil rights, full opportunity for employment according to their individual abilities, with safeguards against physically harmful conditions of employment and economic exploitation, they shall receive compensation without discrimination because of sex.

"They shall be assured security of livelihood, including the safeguarding of motherhood. The provisions necessary for the establishment of these standards shall be guaranteed by government, which shall also insure the right of united action toward the attainment of these aims.

Labor Legislation

"Where special exploitation of women workers exists, such as low wages which provide less than the living conditions attainable, unhealthful working conditions, or long hours of work which result in physical exhaustion and denial of the right to leisure, such conditions shall be corrected through social and labor legislation which the world's experience show to be necessary.

This charter, according to its preamble, is "a general statement of the social and economic objectives of women, for women and for society as a whole, insofar as these can be embodied in legislation and governmental administration."

EXPLOITED



Plantation worker on Hawaiian sugar plantation—exploited under contract labor system.

POOR JUDGE— OVERWORKED!

Schmidt Issues So Many Injunctions

LOS ANGELES—Enemies of labor were worried about Superior Judge Ruben Schmidt here last week. Not because he had quit issuing anti-labor injunctions, but because he is in danger of over-working himself in granting restraining orders against pickets.

Pudge Schmidt added to his fame as the bosses' best friend here December 28 when he enjoined striking pharmacists of the scabby Thrifty Drug Store chain from permitting "any unlawful acts or violence" while picketing the establishments.

No Violence

Not that there has been any violence, or signs of it, on the pharmictsts' picket line, but because Thrifty officials thought the ruling would be a good idea to create public sentiment against the strikers, they sent attorneys into their good friend's court and their wishes were granted.

Meanwhile, in continuing the temporary restraining order, Judge Schmidt denied the Pharmacists' Union an injunction to forestall attempts to keep them from picketing.

The temporary restraining order was continued until trial of a suit for a permanent anti-picketing injunction, brought against the Pharmacists' Union and several other labor organizations by the Thrifty Drug Chain.

New York Musicians Elect Progressives

NEW YORK.—The huge Musicians Union Local 802, with 17,000 members, favored the policies of the incumbents by electing the entire Blue Ticket to office for a 2-year term.

Jacob Rosenberg, secretary for the past two years, was elected president by 4,648, against 888 for Selig Liese and 774 for Louis Weissman. Richard McCann was elected vice-president, Vice-Pres. William Feinberg was chosen as secretary and Harry A. Suber was re-elected treasurer.

Pa. Central Labor Condemns Nazi Troops in Spain

McKEESPORT, Pa. — The Central Labor Union here has passed a resolution condemning armed intervention in Spain by Nazi Germany and fascist Italy.

All unions and labor organizations are urged by the C.L.U. to give their moral and financial support to the struggle of the Spanish people against fascism.

The resolution was introduced by George Power, organizer for the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, and delegate of the Amalgamated Association to the C.L.U.

Truce in Martinez Laundry Dispute

MARTINEZ.—A 30-day truce has been signed at the Martinez Laundry, which had been picketed by the Contra Costa Teamsters' local for several days because the laundry drivers who belong to the Laundry Workers' local refused to join the teamsters.

The pickets were lifted for 30 days pending which an attempt is being made to settle the situation.

J. L. Von Tellropp, business agent of the Teamsters and recently unseated as President of the Contra Costa Trades and Labor Council for embezzlement of the picnic funds of 1935, had the pickets around the laundry in this jurisdictional dispute.

Two hundred teamsters, now belonging to the Alameda County local, have refused to join the Contra Costa local of the Teamsters' Union so long as Von Tellropp is connected with it.

Union Did Well In Pacific Rubber Co.

OAKLAND. — Following a smashing victory under the militant guidance of the Rubber Workers Union Executive Board member Roberts, Pacific Tire and Rubber workers returned to work early last week.

Granted an increase once before, Roberts' generalship brought another rise in wages to the strikers—from 7% to 40% more. Other important points Roberts suceeded in obtaining for his men were union recognition, plant seniority and time-and-a-half for overtime.

Attacked in the Central Labor Council for his policies in behalf of strikers, Executive Roberts made a militant speech defending his actions.

Bercut Cannery Told To Reinstate Union Man, Blacklisted

SACRAMENTO.— The Labor Relations Board recently ordered Bercut and Richards to reinstate brother Popov to his job in the Cannery when it opens, early in the spring.

Popov had been fired for union activity. The cases of six other workers who were fired same reason, are still pending.

L. A. TIMES & CHILD LABOR

"Voluntary Work For Free Youth"

LOS ANGELES—"Child slavery, no, never. Voluntary work for free youth, yes, everlastingly, yes."

Thus, with these vague, meaningless words, the Los Angeles Times calls out for 'free,' uninterrupted and ungoverned exploitation of child labor. The "Times" cries out in fear lest that "initiative developed in youth through honest work" be "destroyed" by the enactment of the Child Labor Amendment to the Constitution.

In its issue of December 28, the Los Angeles Times asks the American people to "pause and consider" before they "confer on Congress the indiscriminate power to regulate or prohibit the labor of all persons under 18 years of age."

The American people have considered this important question. In the November elections, they unequivocally demanded that a stop be put to the ruthless stunting of lives of millions of children that is being carried on every day by the very interests which most loudly are protesting the Child Labor Amendment—the same interests which are represented so clearly by the Los Angeles Times.

And the "Times"—mouthpiece of reaction in Southern California—has also considered the prohibition of child labor, has decided that, rather than pay a decent, living wage to men to sell its newspapers, rather than take a cut in its millions of dollars profit each year, it would see condemned to endless misery and slavery millions of children in textile mills, in mines and capitalist agriculture.

When the "Times" says "voluntary work for free youth" it doesn't ask for the full and abundant life for the American youth which the resources of the country could give it: what the "Times" would give the American youth is a life robbed of all meaning, all pleasure, all richness—a life chained to deadening toil.

ACWA Man Heads N. Y. Labor Party

NEW YORK—Gustave Strebel, general organizer of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America in the up-State area, has been named temporary director of the American Labor party, Luigi Antonini, State chairman of the party, announced yesterday. Mr. Strebel succeeds Mrs. Elinore M. Herrick, who returned to her duties as regional director of the National Labor Relations Board.

Antonini announced that, pending ratification of the constitution, by-laws and rules under which the party will operate as a permanent entity, provisional committees set up after the last election were authorized to continue their work of building up county and district organization.

Jobless Insurance Is Also in Program of Legislation

WASHINGTON. — Unemployment insurance for rail workers and seven other measures will compose the major portion of the standard railroad labor organizations' legislative program, the Railway Labor Executives Association has decided after a meeting here.

Other measures on the executives' "must list" are the six hour day, full crew, train limit, track and bridge inspection, signal inspection and train dispatchers bill, and amendments to the hours of service law and the federal employers' liability act.

Need for Jobless Insurance

Because of the nature of railroad work, unemployment insurance on a national scale and separate from the Social Security Act is necessary for the employes in that industry, George M. Harrison, chairman of the Railway Labor Executives Association asserted.

At present, Harrison said, there is no uniformity in unemployment insurance laws insofar as they concern rail employees and "it is an unsatisfactory condition to say the least."

The association also passed a resolution calling upon all local units of the railroad organizations to cooperate with the American Federation of Labor in a drive on the states which have not yet ratified the child labor amendment, pledged support of the organizations to other groups seeking elimination of child labor, and called upon President Roosevelt for his support in "prevailing upon authorities of the several states to take necessary action."

Cannery Union In Pedro Tops 200

LONG BEACH. — Cannery Workers Union of San Pedro and Long Beach initiated 22 new members in the Labor Temple at a recent meeting.

Andrea Gomez, business representative of the union in her campaign for new members has accomplished in a remarkably short time what it was expected would take weeks to do.

Grows To 200

Already the membership has grown to more than 200, with prospects of reaching 800 in the near future.

All but one cannery operating in the Long Beach Harbor has signed a union agreement with the local.

Negotiations are under way with this concern, and it is predicted by those in the inner circle that an agreement will be reached soon.

Meetings of the union are held each Sunday morning at 10 o'clock in the Labor Temple.

A large class of candidates are to appear for initiation at the next meeting. Sister Gomes requests all members to be present.

Progressives Win In S.F. Pressmen

SAN FRANCISCO—Progressives won an impressive victory in the recent elections of San Francisco Web Pressmens Union No. 4.

For president, Vernon Burke, and outstanding progressive defeated C. J. Falvey, Sheriff Dan Murphy's candidate. The vote was 98 for Burke, 81 for Falvey.

L. H. Wickstrom, a progressive was elected financial secretary without opposition.

On the Executive Board, two progressives were elected: G. Ertola and A. Luce.

Burke and D. Hogan, also a progressive, were among those elected delegates to the Central Labor Council.

The recognition given the progressives by the members is shown by the fact that Falvey defeated Burke in the 1935 election, by 87 to 76, contrasted to this year's results.

Ladies Auxiliary of Label Section Invites Women

SAN FRANCISCO.—The Ladies Auxiliary of the Union Label Section of San Francisco, which meets at 8 p.m. every second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Labor Temple, 16th and Capp Sts., cordially invites all wives, sisters and daughters of union men to join with them in their work.

TEAMSTERS' RANK & FILE WIN IN N. Y.

Here Are the Kind of Men Who Swept Out Reactionaries

(NOTE—The sweeping victory of the Gold Standard ticket in the recent elections of Teamsters Local 807 is of great importance to maritime workers on the West Coast. The progressives in the local have since the elections decided not to pass New York seamens' picket lines.)

NEW YORK—When the Gold Standard (progressive rank and file) ticket won a clean sweep in the recent Teamsters elections here, they swept out a reactionary clique which had ruled with an iron hand for years. This machine was close to Joe Ryan.

Here is the rank and file slate which won, as described in the campaign circular of the Gold Standard ticket:

Real Rank and Files

"Our candidate for President is William Devery, city driver for many years. Brother Devery works out of Brooklyn. He has earned the love and respect of hundreds of drivers in New York City. He has devoted all his time and energy to improve the conditions of his fellow men. He has the ability and qualifications necessary to fill the office to which he aspires.

"Our candidate for Vice-President is John Hughes who is steward on a West Side job. As a member of the Wage-scale Committee, he has contributed his efforts to straighten out many jobs. A finer man cannot be found to fill the post. He is well suited for the office.

"Brother Thomas Hickey is the Gold Standard candidate for the office of secretary-treasurer. The secretary-treasurer is also the head delegate and as such is one of the most important officers in the local. His ability as a trade union leader is known to everyone. Through his help to hundreds of brothers in the Teamsters' Union, regardless of which local, he has shown his devotion to the cause of good unionism.

"Even his enemies respect him for his great knowledge about the trucking industry and its relations to the truck drivers. We know of no better man to fill this most important office. We feel that men with Brother Hickey's qualifications must be our next officers if we are to make Local 807 the best, as well as the biggest local in our International Union.

"Our candidates for delegates are William Campbell and Thomas Clarke. They are energetic and honest union leaders who are out to fight for good unionism. Brother Campbell works from the West Side and Brother Clarke from an East Side 'barn.' Brother Campbell was elected as a delegate to the Portland Convention of the Teamsters' International in September, 1935. He fought on the convention floor single handed against railroading the increase in dues to a $2.00 minimum. His activity on the Wage Scale Committee this year is a record of which we are proud. Many a brother who is working on what is now a good union job, can vouch for the statement that the majority of the Wage Scale Committee, and not the officers of the union, made these jobs one hundred per cent.

"Brother Clarke's consistent fight for progressive unionism on the floor of the local union meetings, for the Grievance Committee, for an elected Elections Committee (not an appointed one as in the past), for the rank and file members to have the right to express themselves on the floor of the meetings, makes it urgent that he be elected as a delegate to give all his good ideas and time for the advancement of good unionism. Tom Clarke will make a fine and honest delegate for our local.

"Our candidates for the three Trustees are Austin Fury, Michael Schwartz, and John McCarthy. They are three who refuse to be 'Yes Men' for any officer of the union. They are known for their courage and ability to fight for what is right. All three are 100 per cent union men. We express the sentiments of hundreds of brothers when we offer these men for your endorsement.

"Our ticket has been selected to represent both the local drivers and the city drivers on the over-the-road jobs. Our candidates are experienced union men and real battlers for one hundred per cent gold standard jobs."